FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 JUNE 1984

Lebanon

After several rounds of talks covering all aspects of the situation, agreement was reached on a number of issues and this can help the Lebanese Government overcome its present problems and move to a new situation, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam declared in remarks reported by Voice of Lebanon radio after talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil and other Lebanese leaders in Bikfayya. The talks, held in a "positive" atmosphere, focused on ways to implement the government program, strengthen the Lebanese state, and achieve security, Khaddam disclosed. In a related report, AFP said Khaddam secured "tentative approval" from the Christian leaders for a draft plan to give Muslims a share of control over the Army through a collective command and the establishment of a supreme defense council. Minister of State for Southern Affairs and Reconstruction Nabih Birri, who did not attend the talks because of ill health, likewise agreed in principle to the proposals concerning the Army and conveyed the Amal Movement's support for any security plan aimed at consolidating the cease-fire, according to Beirut radio. In his discussions with Birri's representative Muhammad Baydun, Khaddam told the Amal official that the security situation in Beirut cannot continue as it is and that a solution must be found, the radio noted earlier. Reporting on Khaddam's talks in Bikfayya, Radio Monte Carlo said the Syrian vice president expressed concern about the security situation in Beirut, particularly the western sector. The radio also claimed that Khaddam's talks were an extension of secret summit talks between President al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held in Damascus on 29 May.

Meanwhile, sniper fire and intermittent clashes with heavy weapons continued across the combat lines in Beirut, according to Beirut radio. In the western sector, a joint committee comprising representatives of Amal, the Progressive Socialist Party, and Al-Murabitun adopted a number of measures to improve security, the radio noted. In fresh incidents in the south, the IDF killed three "terrorists" near Sidon while two IDF soldiers were subsequently injured in an ambush near An-Nabatiyah, according to announcements by the IDF spokesman reported by ITIM and Jerusalem radio.

A Damascus radio commentary on the situation warned that Israel will be the "winner" unless the warring factions stop the cycle of violence and allow the Lebanese state to reassume its role in the name and interest of all the Lebanese.

Gulf Conflict

Iraqi heavy artillery shelled "residential areas" of Abadan for 55 minutes on 17 June, according to Ahvaz radio, once again demonstrating Iraq's faiure to adhere to any agreement.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi commander claimed the Iraqi Armed Forces have regained and fortified "a part" of Majnun Island, INA reported. He stated that the part of the island occupied by Iran is "useless militarily" and is a "successful trap," having cost Iran 12,000 dead and 25,000 wounded. The Iraqi commander also asserted that Iran is massing "three-quarters" of its regular army and several Khomeyni guard units on the Iraq-Iran border. In this connection, Tehran and Ahvaz radios broadcast further reports of forces being dispatched to the front.

On the diplomatic front, Jordan's King Husayn will travel to Baghdad 19 June for "summit talks" with Iraq on the Iran-Iraq conflict and the situation in the Gulf, KUNA reported citing "reliable sources." Husayn will be accompanied by his prime minister and other senior officials, the report added.

In a separate development, the hijacked Iranian Fokker 27 flew to France after leaving Egypt, AFP reported. The plane made a stopover in Sicily, but resumed the journey to Paris after a request for asylum in Italy was turned down by the Italian Government, the agency added. According to a further AFP report, the hijackers surrendered to French police in Nice after authorities indicated that France did not wish to grant them political asylum. Reacting to the incident, Tehran radio reported that the plane had been hijacked by "agents of America and international Zionism" to divert Islamic public opinion from the need for unity and struggle to liberate Jerusalem.

Israel

Many of the defendants in the trial of the Jewish underground are "heroes of the people of Israel," a Gush Emunim official asserted at a press conference reported by *THE JERUSALEM POST*. Noting that the suspects include a number of people connected with Gush Emunim, the paper warned that such people are undermining the law and the cohesion of Israeli society.

FBIS

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L'UNITA Interviews 'Arafat on Rome Talks

PM182002 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 15 Jun 84 pp 1, 19

[Interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Giancarlo Lannutti in Rome on 13 June]

[Excerpts] Rome — The sad circumstances of 'Arafat's presence in Rome, in other words the "unofficial" nature of his visit, did not prevent him from having political talks. I asked him about them.

['Arafat] Yes, I met with Senate Speaker Cossiga, to whom I expressed appreciation of his stances regarding the Palestinian people. I also had a meeting with Foreign Minister Andreotti, who, I recall, was president of the Inter-Parliamentary Union when I came to Rome in 1982 (it will be recalled that it was Andreotti himself who invited 'Arafat to the Inter-Parliamentary Union session — *L'UNITA* editor's note). We discussed many important issues, starting with the situation of the Palestinian movement, since the PLO has managed to surmount the difficulties that it has recently had to tackle. I briefed him on the current inter-Palestinian meetings and the preparations for the coming PNC session. We reviewed the Lebanese situation, the dangerous nature of current events in that country, and the difficulties caused in Lebanon by the continuing Israeli occupation and the partitioning conspiracy. We also discussed the Palestinian initiative for the Iran-Iraq war, in which connection I brought Mr Andreotti up to date on current efforts to end the war within the framework of the Islamic Conference's mediation committee. We noted an agreement of viewpoints on the dangerous nature of that war and on the importance of making every effort to help end it.

Next I informed the minister of our people's situation and of their suffering under the occupation, with special reference to the continuation of the Israeli policy of confiscating land and creating more and more new settlements and to the repression that our people are suffering, which has reached levels of organized terrorism. Next we discussed my proposal to convene an international conference to resolve the Middle East issue, under UN auspices, with the participation of all sides concerned and with representation from permanent members of the Security Council. Last, we talked about the latest EC declaration on the Palestinians and the Middle East, particularly in view of the fact that Italy will have the European Council chairmanship for the first half of 1985.

[Lannutti] So are you satisfied with this meeting?

['Arafat] I consider it a useful, fruitful, and positive meeting. We agreed to continue our consultations.

[Lannutti] Let us come now to your internal problems. What is the situation "in the Palestinian home"?

['Arafat] The most important fact is that our people are united, and this unity has stemmed from the battle to defend the autonomy of Palestinian national decisionmaking (it should be remembered that this was the main thread running through the February 1983 National Council session in Algiers — *L'UNITA* editor's note). Our people are united, both inside and outside the occupied territories, and have expressed their total backing for the PLO as their only legitimate representative. Of course, there are within the Palestinian world various viewpoints, especially following the difficulties that we have experienced and Arab attempts to interfere in our autonomous, independent, and national decisionmaking. But in all our consultations in preparation for the National Council session, we proceed from a basic principle: the safeguarding of our decisionmaking independence and our determination not to permit any kind of interference by anyone.

On the basis of these principles we have had meetings with other organizations that have distinguished themselves by their attachment to decisionmaking autonomy. We have had a series of meetings in Algiers and they have been positive. Another series of meetings is at present underway in Aden. And there should be preparations for the convening of the National Council session.

[Lannutti] What chances are there of surmounting the split with Syria?

['Arafat] We have accepted all the mediations. First, that of Saudi Arabia, then those of Algeria and Yemen. We cannot say that they were a failure, because there have been some steps forward in general terms.

'Arafat Meets With Palestinian Organizations

LD182155 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1602 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Brethren, in the evening of the day before yesterday [as heard] the brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Palestine revolution, met with representatives of the popular Palestinian organizations and unions. The brother leader Abu 'Ammar reviewed for them the latest developments on all levels and the role of the trade union leaderships and their duties during the current phase, the activation of the role of the branches and their effectiveness within the framework of following the events and movement of action on both international and Arab levels.

First, with regard to the Palestinian national dialogue, Brother Abu 'Ammar stressed anew that there were clear Syrian pressures on certain sides of the dialogue at both the Algiers and Aden meetings, aimed at hindering and aborting this dialogue. He pointed out, however, that President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has exerted deserving efforts so that the Aden meetings would be successful. He understood our stance more than ever before.

In our turn, we have affirmed — and here I am quoting the Brother leader Abu 'Ammar — that we shall continue the dialogue with the same spirit and responsibility which we have shown from the start and expressed by our delegation during and after the meetings of Aden, and it has been agreed to continue the meetings in 1 week in Aden after the organizations consult their leaderships and return with the decision and [word indistinct].

Second, the plot is aimed against all, and consequently all should adopt a responsible stand toward the interest of the people and the revolution far away from any pressures or any self considerations.

Third, our people have realized that they have greater concern than their leaders about national unity and their adherence to it and their concern about the unity of the PLO and their rallying around it and their concern about the unity of the aims of the revolution is greater.

Fourth, the PNC must be convened before the holding of the Israeli elections so that we can confront future developments which warn of great dangers.

Fifth, we shall hold a popular conference in addition to the PNC in order to prove to all the enemies of our people the strength and unshakable national unity of our own, politically and organizationally. Furthermore, we are now conducting contacts with our Algerian brothers on the possibility of accommodating this number of participants.

Sixth, as to America: America has exerted great pressures to prevent the convening of the Good Offices Committee to halt the Iraqi-Iranian war, because America's aim is to (?escalate) the war and to enter in it directly and involve the Gulf states. *THE WASHINGTON POST* confirmed on 13 of this month [word indistinct] an American plan for intervention.

The visit of As-Sadat [to Israel] and the signing of the Camp David Accords, the breaking out of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the Zionist-American plots, in which Arab forces took part to oust us from Lebanon following the siege of Beirut and the siege of Tripoli so that the conditions would be ripe for the partitioning and Balkanization of Lebanon as a prelude for the partitioning of the region, are, as Abu 'Ammar said, the most distinctive signs of the flaw and the state of Arab collapse. Our national and pan-Arab responsibility, quoting Abu 'Ammar, requires from us all the following:

A. [Words indistinct] in the region.
B. The return of Egypt so that it will (?perform) its strong role away from the policy of [word indistinct].
C. The halting of the Iraqi-Iranian war and preventing its spreading and dangers.
D. [Words indistinct] in Africa to strengthen the Arab [word indistinct] to confront this imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

The Brother leader Abu 'Ammar went on to say at his meeting with the representatives of popular Palestinian organizations that we have made great efforts for the restoration of Soviet and Bulgarian relations with Egypt. He said our visit to China has perpetuated the international recognition of the PLO amidst the atmosphere which was prepared to (?exclude) us from the international equilibrium. [as heard] Its outcome was positive and important. So was the visit to Yugoslavia and its important outcome. As for Italy, my visit was to attend the funeral of Comrade Berlinguer who stood solidly by the Palestinian people and the PLO at all the difficult times. Meetings took place during this visit with the Italian president. The meeting was intimate and important and he hoped that our endeavors to halt the Iraqi-Iranian war will be successful, so that it will not spread and become more dangerous. Meetings were also held with the foreign minister and the president of the Italian Senate, at which the Palestinian and international situation were discussed.

As the Brother leader Abu 'Ammar says, the results of the talks with the Soviet comrades were positive and important. The Sovietstold our delegation that they feel that they are with genuine Palestinians who are distinguished in raising issues and political facts stemming from the interest of their people and their care for it.

In conclusion, Brother leader Abu 'Ammar said in his talk with the leaders of Palestinian popular organizations that the international conference, which we are calling for under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of the Security Council, means the abolition of Camp David. As he said, we shall continue our efforts in this field. Revolution until victory.

Al-Wazir Makes Statement on Aden Dialogue

JN181132 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Jun 84 pp 1, 23

[Muhammad Abu Ghawsh dispatch]

[Text] Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* — Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian forces, returned to Amman yesterday after heading the Fatah delegation to the intra-Palestinian dialogue that was held in Aden with the attendance of representatives from Algeria and the PDRY.

In a statement to *AD-DUSTUR*, Abu Jihad expressed great optimism that the expected results of the dialogue, which will be resumed next Friday, will be in favor of strengthening Palestinian national unity and joint cooperation in light of the political and organizational program to hold the PNC session — a session which, when convened, will constitute an important turning point on the path of Palestinian unified action — and guaranteeing the PLO march on various levels.

Abu Jihad said: We have no choice but to make efforts to bypass obstacles that may emerge during the dialogue so that we can come out with a working paper that can be a used as a guideline for the PNC. He expressed his confidence that the Palestinian leaderships' enlightenment will be greater than adherence to a word here or to a stand there because the grave situation of the Palestinian people and revolution is more important than expressions or words that may create obstacles on the path of national unity — a unity which is considered one of the objectives of the continued struggle of the Palestinian people and revolution.

Abu Jihad added that an agreement was reached on political and organizational matters in general and that the other [Palestinian] organizations had adopted the proposals of Fatah's working paper. The most prominent proposals in this working paper are: strengthening the collective leadership, completing the PLO Executive Committee's bylaws, and granting the PNC the authority to make decisions and not to be a consultative body

only. The PNC shall have the authority even to freeze the membership of one third of the PLO Executive Committee members and to select a deputy or a number of deputies for this committee's chairman.

This is in addition to Fatah's proposal to form something similar to a permanent secretariat to follow up the daily work.

Abu Jihad explained that the Palestinian organizations' representatives left for Damascus to meet with their leaderships and to return with a clear and speific stand on the following three issues:

1. The convocation of the PNC session.
2. Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] visit to Cairo.
3. The incidents in northern Lebanon.

Abu Jihad praised the efforts of the representatives of the FLN, the YSP, and PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who emphasized the importance of the dialogue and sought to have this dialogue reach positive results.

Concerning his visit to San'a' and Saudi Arabia, Al-Wazir said that he met with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on his way back and a number of Saudi officials in Jidda where he acquainted them with the results of the Palestinian dialogue and the need to make all possible efforts to bring Palestinian-Syrian relations back to normal and bypass some of the obstacles on this path.

Al-Wazir said that the second stage following Aden will be to hold a larger dialogue to include other Palestinian organizations, such as As-Sa'iqah, the PFLP-GC, and the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front.

He explained that this expanded dialogue will be held within the framework of the PLO Executive Committee, the PNC, and the Palestinian leadership.

Fatah Official on Escape From Dissidents' Prison

JN181232 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Jun 84 pp 1, 23

[Sana' al-'Alul dispatch]

[Excerpt] Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* — Sulayman Abu Karsh, alias Abu Khalid, official in charge of various Fatah investments abroad, was able to escape from a prison set up by Fatah dissidents in a Damascus suburb after he had been been detained for 9 months. In a statement to *AD-DUSTUR*, Abu Khalid said that the prison director, the officer in charge of prison security, and the prison driver escaped with him after he had convinced them to return to Fatah ranks. He added that he was arrested in Libya in October 1983 when he was summoned by the PLO office in Tripoli, which is controlled by Libyan officials. He explained that he was treated roughly at the time of his arrest and was inhumanly treated for 4 days after which he was taken by a Libyan military plane to Syria, accompanied by a number of Fatah dissidents led by Wasif 'Urayqat, alias Abu Ra'd, and a number of armed Libyans.

Resistance Attacks Lahhad Patrol in Sidon

JN181743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men continue their operations against the Zionist invasion forces and their agents in southern Lebanon. A group of resistance men used hand grenades to attack a patrol belonging to agent Antoine Lahhad's forces in the heart of Sidon. The attack killed or wounded many elements of agent Antoine Lahhad's forces. A spokesman for the Zionist invasion forces admitted the attack, but claimed that no one from the agent's patrol was harmed. The spokesman added that agent Antoine Lahhad's forces besieged the area and fired their machine guns indiscriminately, wounding several civilians and damaging several civilian cars.

GULF AFFAIRS

Chiefs of Staff To Hold Emergency Meeting

LD190958 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0912 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jun (KUNA) — A Kuwaiti newspaper reported today that the chiefs of staffs of the GCC's armies will hold an emergency meeting "to study an emergency working plan to face the escalation possibilities of the military situation in the area." The paper *AL-ANBA'* did not disclose the date or the venue of the meeting which it said will be held at the behest of the six GCC defense ministers.

However, reports attributed to responsible sources at the GCC General Secretariat have said the meeting might be held after 'Id al-Fitr [festivities to mark breaking of fast] at the beginning of next month. These sources pointed out the meeting of the chiefs of staff might substitute for that of the GCC defense ministers, the date of which has not yet been fixed.

The paper added that the emergency meeting will be held with the participation of experts, technicians, and senior officers from various corps to discuss a plan aimed at "deterring any aggression to which one or several scattered positions in the GCC countries might be subjected."

BAHRAIN

Briefs

Trade Balance — The latest bulletin of the Bahrain Monetary Agency has reported that Bahrain's balance of trade recorded a deficiency of 53.8 million Bahraini dinars for 1983, whereas it recorded a surplus of 65.9 million Bahraini dinars in 1982. The bulletin pointed out this can be attributed to the size of the commodity imports' exceeding the exports for 1983 and to the oil crisis experienced this year. [Summary] [Manama *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* in Arabic 15 Jun 84 GF]

Trade Statistics — Japan supplied nearly a quarter of Bahrain's imports during 1983, figures just released by the islands monetary agency have revealed. The Japanese won more than 22 percent of the market, toppling the United States from the position it has held for the past three years. The Japanese exports are heavily dominated by cars and electronic consumer goods. Japan's exports to Bahrain during 1983 were worth BD158,964,000, compared to BD 105,172,000 in the previous year — an increase of BD53,792,000. On the Bahraini exports side, Japan again achieved dominance, importing BD57,195,000 from the island, with Saudi Arabia coming second at BD46,709,000. One surprising statistic is the BD8,183,000 worth of exports from Bahrain to China during 1983 — the previous year there were no exports to the communist giant. Overall Bahrain's exports fell by more than BD150 million, although exports of manufactured goods nearly doubled. [Excerpts][Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* in English 18 Jun 84 p 1 GF]

KUWAIT

Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani Clash Over Cease-Fire

GF151335 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 14 Jun 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Paris]

[Text] Reports from the Iranian capital say that the next few days may witness a settlement of the conflict between President of the Republic 'Ali Khamene'i and Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The reports quote Western diplomats in Tehran as saying that Hashemi-Rafsanjani accused the president of the Republic of treason following his acceptance of the UN secretary general's proposal to stop shelling towns. At the time when Khamene'i ordered the Iranian Army to stop shelling Iraqi towns, Hashemi-Rafsanjani summoned Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], and asked him to continue shelling Iraqi towns, especially the city of Basra. It was then that Iraq announced that the Iranian side did not honor the promise made by President Khamene'i, and that is why the Iraqi forces attacked Dezful with missiles in response to the Iranian shelling of Basra and other towns.

President Khamene'i threatened to resign from his post after Dezful was hit if the IRGC — whose commander is loyal to Hashemi-Rafsanjani — didn't stop violating the agreement which was reached through UN mediation. In his urgent message to Ayatollah Khomeyni, Khamene'i held Hashemi-Rafsanjani responsible for the Iraqi shelling of Dezful and asked Khomeyni to grant him the freedom to act in full capacity as president of the Republic and head of the Supreme Defense Council.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Chairs 18 Jun Council of Ministers Session

LD182233 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1805 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Mecca, 18 Jun [SPA] — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers this evening. After the meeting, Minister of Information 'Ali ash-Sha'ir made a statement saying: After a quick review of the most prominent political and security developments in the Arab region, the council was briefed on the results of the meetings of the GCC oil and foreign ministers in At-Ta'if last week. His majesty expressed great satisfaction at the resolutions and recommendations of these meetings which indicate a deep understanding of the critical circumstances in the Gulf region, through cooperation, mutual assistance and consultations among these sister countries. The council then considered projects concerning the development and improvement of conditions in Mecca and Medina and issued the necessary recommendations pertaining to them.

His majesty, may God preserve him, spoke to the council about ideas and directives aimed at the good of Saudi citizens in capital investments. The minister of finance and national economy reported to the council on the implementation of the general state budget during the last 2 months of the current financial year. He explained that the implementation of projects and services

approved in the budget are on schedule and that 52 billion riyals were spent on projects during this period and on government purchases. The report also included all the payments made to contractors according to dates fixed in the contracts. The report said most projects are well advanced, pointing out they will be completed and handed over to those concerned during the current financial year.

The minister of information concluded his statement saying the council passed certain matters to the subcommittees for completion of study and for resubmission to the first session of the council to be held after 'Id al-Fitr.

AR-RIYAD Sees Agreement in Iranian, Israeli Aims

PM150950 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 11 Jun 84 pp 1,21

[Exitorial: "The Gulf Between Cyrus and Shamir"]

[Text] In a statement he made the day before yesterday, Yitzhaq Shamir said Israel will intervene in the Gulf if its interests are endangered. When we look for these "interests," we find no geographical or material trace of them because no such interests exist in the Gulf. But we can find them on the strategic level when we realize Israel actually sought to weaken Iraq vis-a-vis Iran when it bombed its nuclear reactor and that it sold Iran arms and military spares some 2 years ago.

We know for certain Iran does not serve any specific Israeli interests. Nor does Israel serve any specific Iranian interests. Both sides, however, agree on one single dream. This is Iran's desire to expand westward and Israel's desire to expand eastward so that both would join forces over the remains of the Arab world in the area lying between them.

In the light of this revelation and the material evidence both sides have shown through their joint cooperation to the extent that Yitzhaq Shamir frankly declared Israel will intervene in the Gulf if the balance tips in favor of Iraq, no Iranian official can convince any Muslim that the violations, destruction, and war taking place in the Gulf are due to disagreements over a principle or dogma, let alone to sectarian disagreements.

On the ground, Iran has no justification to its claim it is fighting to restore lost territory, whereas Iraq does have such a right but has conceded it by accepting any peace initiative.

What, therefore, is the excuse for the war?

Yesterday we referred to Iran's need for any political or military pretext to distract the attention of its citizens who have in the past years suffered from the lack of security and stability and have been subjected to unending bloody liquidations. If we are to look for another excuse, it could only be the desire to exploit the present adverse conditions in the Arab world and Israel's preparedness to commit aggression against it, whether in Lebanon or the Gulf, in order to revive the empire of Cyrus even if such a revival, as advocated by the turban wearers, is at the expense of those who spread Islam in early Persia.

UAE

Briefs

Payments Surplus — The UAE balance of payments has achieved an overall surplus of 600 million dirhams, despite the prevailing economic situation. This is the smallest balance of payments in the last 3 years. The surplus was 12.9 billion dirhams in 1981, which dropped to 6 billion in 1982. A bulletin issued by the UAE Central Bank indicated the drop in oil production has reflected on gas production. Gas exports reached 5 billion dirhams, 9 percent less than those of 1982. [Excerpt] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1140 GMT 15 Jun 84 GF]

PDRY

Briefs

New Ambassador to DRA — Brother 'Ali 'Aydarus Yahya delivered his credentials to Afghan leader Babrak Karmal as PDRY nonresident ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the DRA. [Summary] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Jun 84 GF]

YAR

Briefs

Outgoing U.S. Envoy — Ahmad 'Abd al-Malik al-Asbahi, minister of state for foreign affairs, received David Eugene Zweifel, U.S. ambassador to YAR, at the end of his term of office. [Text] [San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Jun 84 GF]

Sudan's Numayri Due in Alexandria 20 Jun

NC191143 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jun (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will receive Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri at At-Tin Palace in Alexandria. An official reception will be held for the Sudanese president upon his arrival from Saudi Arabia tomorrow.

President Mubarak will host a Ramadan banquet in honor of the Sudanese guest tomorrow evening.

Mubarak Appoints 10 People's Assembly Members

NC191149 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jun (MENA) — A republican decree was issued today appointing the following 10 persons as members of the People's Assembly: Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Engineer Ibrahim Mahmud Shukri, Kamal Henry Badir, 'Ali Rustum Hasan, Dr Milad Hanna, Mamduh Muhammad Ahmad Qannawi, William Najib Sifin, Ahmad Mahmud Ahmad Mujahid, Janet Kamil Sa'd, and George Raphael Rizq.

Al-Baz on Mubarak's Meeting With Political Aides

NC191130 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jun (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the presidential office for political affairs, said that during President Mubarak's 90-minute meeting with the political group today, he discussed arrangements regarding the convening of the new People's Assembly. Al-Baz said that agreement has been reached on these arrangements. He said: We hope that the new session of the People's Assembly will be replete with achievements for Egypt and its people.

Al-Baz added that President Mubarak also discussed some international issues, particularly the Iranian-Iraqi war, its repercussions in the area, and the current volatile situation in the Gulf.

Al-Baz noted that President Mubarak and his political aides discussed steps that could be taken to supplement and follow up the initiative [on the Gulf war] submitted by Egypt 6 weeks ago, as well as the reaction to this initiative thus far.

They also discussed the new steps Egypt is contemplating to revive and reactivate this initiative, especially following the partial success achieved by the United Nations with Egypt's help — a success represented by the two sides' agreement to refrain from attacking civilian targets.

Al-Baz said we feel that this agreement is a small but still important step because it is the first positive step to which the two sides have agreed to adhere. We believe that more steps will be reached.

Concluding, Al-Baz said that Egypt will embark on a new drive in the coming period, but that the details or contents will not be announced in order to safeguard this initiative and the integrity of the Egyptian effort between the two sides.

Al-Baz on Israeli Protection of Holy Places

NC191204 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jun (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the presidential office for political affairs, has affirmed that Israel shoulders the responsibility for protecting holy places, saying this is an international responsibility based on Geneva agreements. This applies also to the West Bank, which is considered an occupied area. He added that the Israeli Government is fully responsible for security in occupied areas.

Dr al-Baz made this statement in reply to a question on Rabbi Meir Kahane's recent statements that he is ready to blow up the Al-Aqsa mosque and other holy places and establish a Jewish temple on their ruins.

Dr al-Baz noted that Israel, being an occupation power, must safeguard the safety of the people and property, especially the holy places. He said any violation of this by extremist elements or others is a problem for which the Israeli Government is held responsible.

Ghali on Meeting With Mexican President

NC180548 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid this evening received Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. Dr Ghali told our radio correspondent after the meeting that he had delivered a written message from President Husni Mubarak to the Mexican president.

He said the discussion dealt with the situation in the Middle East. Dr Ghali added that he had explained, on the basis of instructions from President Mubarak, Egypt's position on the current war between Iraq and Iran and Egypt's efforts through the Nonaligned Movement to stop the escalation of the military confrontation.

Ghali pointed out that he had briefed the Mexican president on the Middle East crisis, the situation of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the deterioration in the conditions of the Palestinians as a result of Israeli policy.

Dr Ghali said the meeting also dealt with the importance of bilateral relations between Egypt and Mexico and ways to strengthen them in various fields. The Mexican president had underlined the role of Egypt and Mexico in strengthening relations between African and Latin American states.

Dr Butrus Ghali addressed an invitation, on behalf of President Mubarak, to the Mexican president to visit Egypt, and the Mexican president accepted. The date of the visit will be set through diplomatic channels.

Our radio correspondent has learned that Dr Ghali has sent a report to President Husni Mubarak on his meeting with the Mexican president.

The foreign ministers of Egypt and Mexico this afternoon opened the second conference of dialogue between African and Latin American states. Dr Ghali delivered a speech in which he emphasized Egypt's interest in strengthening relations between Africa and Latin America. He said Egypt is working to promote dialogue between the two sides in order to achieve the interests of the peoples of the two continents.

Mexican Reportage of Visit by Butrus Ghali

For Mexico City NOTIMEX coverage of the visit to Mexico by Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, including his meeting with President Miguel de la Madrid and energy cooperation talks, see the Mexico section of the 19 June Latin America *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,500 — 18 June

JN181615 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jun (INA) — The Iraqi forces killed two Iranian troops east of Basra. Communique No 1,500 issued by the Armed Forces General Command here this evening added that Iraqi forward units in the central sector fired on several enemy positions and troop concentrations, destroying three infantry positions and their occupants as well as one hardware stockpile.

The communique, which summed up the military activities for yesterday evening and today, said that Iraqi forward units used artillery to engage several enemy positions in the Maysan sector, scoring direct hits. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,500 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant army units are continuing their successful activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the expansionist Iranian regime. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units fired on several enemy positions and troop concentrations in the area opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, destroying three infantry positions and killing their occupants, and destroying one hardware stockpile.

2. One of our forward units fired on a number of enemy troops opposite its positions in the operational area east of Basra, killing two and destroying one bulldozer.

3. One of our forward units used artillery to engage several enemy positions opposite its positions in the Maysan sector, scoring direct hits.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 June 1984.

Commander on Iranian Preparations for Offensive

JN190726 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0540 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jun (INA) —Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd ar-Rashid, commander of the III Army Corps, has said that the Iraqi Armed Forces have regained a part of Majnun Island that is usable for military purposes and built strong fortifications on it. The remaining part of the island, he explained, was flooded with water from Huwayzah. The commander affirmed that the part of the island occupied by the Iranians is useless militarily. This came in a statement which the magazine *ALIF BA'* will publish here tomorrow.

The Iraqi military commander said that Majnun Island was a successful trap, because the Iranians lost 12,000 dead and 25,000 wounded on the island.

Regarding Iranian preparations for the new offensive against Iraq, Staff Maj Gen Mahid 'Abd ar-Rashid said that the new battle will be a decisive end to the aggression. The commander said that any new offensive will be crushed and that the Iranians will suffer more losses than in previous battles. The commander pointed out that the Iranian rulers are massing on the Iraqi-Iranian border three quarters of their regular army and several Khomeyni Guard units. The commander stressed that the Iraqi soldiers are not worried by all these enemy concentrations, because they are ready to annihilate them.

Tariq 'Aziz Interviewed by AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ

GF171314 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 17 Jun 84 pp 3, 5

[Interview with Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, by Ahmad Salman Kamal, *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ*'s chief editor — place, date not given]

[Text] [Ahmad Salman Kamal] This is our first question, minister. It is said that Iraq has rejected Algerian mediation. Why? What is the content of the Algerian peace plan?

[Tariq 'Aziz] In fact, Iraq has not rejected Algerian mediation as has been reported by the press. On the contrary, in 1982 Iraq encouraged Algeria to look for ways to establish peace between Iraq and Iran. However, there was not an Algerian mediation in the technical and legal meaning of the word. Iran rejected Algerian mediation and practically and legally speaking, there cannot be any mediation without the two parties' approval. The situation is that Iraq agrees to it and Iran rejects it.

Recently two Algerian officials visited us. They were Mohamed Cherif Messaadia and Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani. The press published reports and speculated about the two visits. But the two Algerian officials visited Iraq and did not make any proposal; nor did they suggest any idea. Rather, they came to learn about the latest developments and to further explore Iraq's point of view. This is all that happened. Thus, there was no mediation to be rejected. Nor were there any proposals or ideas about a peaceful settlement.

[Kamal] It has been reported that Abdelghani came with Iranian proposals which no one will accept. Is this the reason behind Iraq's rejection of these proposals?

['Aziz] No. The truth is that he did not offer any Algerian proposals or convey any ones from the Iranian side. The first thing he said in the presence of the president: What are your views and assessment? Hence, he came for exploration and to acquaint himself with the situation only and not for any other objective.

[Kamal] After Iran's continued insistance on war and its rejection of all mediation, can Iraq still listen to mediators? Don't you think the time for mediation has past?

['Aziz] Iraq's objective is peace. Iraq is desirous of establishing an overall just, honorable, and durable settlement in its dispute with Iran. Hence it will continue to listen to all proposals from international and regional organizations and from countries which are looking for any means of peace. This is a basic stand

which Iraq adopted right from the beginning. Although this stand has cost us dearly on the battlefield, particularly in 1980 and 1981 and the first half of 1982, we still cling firmly to it because it springs from our strategic goal: peace with neighbors.

[Kamal] Does the phrase "cost us dearly" mean your withdrawal from the Iranian territory?

['Aziz] No, the situation which we faced is that the Iraqi forces were inside Iranian territory and were subjected to attacks by Iranian forces. Thus the Iraqi soldier had to defend his military positions as a soldier, knowing that his leadership was sincerely willing to give up these positions through peaceful means.

This was very difficult for the fighting soldier because he had to defend and fight to the death to keep positions which he knew beforehand his leadership would give up through peace.

Naturally when our forces withdrew to our land, we did not face the same situation, because the Iraqi soldier now knows that he is defending his national soil and that his leadership will never flinch on this land. Therefore, through our peaceful stand since the beginning of the dispute and since we accepted the UN Security Council resolution on 28 September 1980 until the battles east of Basra in July 1982 — indeed until our withdrawal from the Iranian territory in June 1982, we were paying a high military price.

[Kamal] What will Iraq's conditions be if Syria permits the pumping of Iraqi oil through its territories again?

['Aziz] We do not have any conditions in this regard other than the implementation of the articles of the agreement which was signed between Iraq and Syria in this regard.

[Kamal] I am saying this because it has been reported that following Iraq's success in besieging Khark, Syria has been in need of petroleum, thus it is currently thinking of permitting Iraq to pump again?

['Aziz] Personally, I do not have such information on new Syrian ideas in this regard, but we have an agreement which was signed a few months ago before the Syrian Government's decision to close the pipeline. We only ask the implementation of this agreement.

[Kamal] Are you ready to start pumping again at any time?

['Aziz] They are the ones who closed it and not us.

[Kamal] Does Iraq have a joint strategy with the GCC countries, following Iran's attempt to expand the war or create confusion in the whole Arab Gulf?

['Aziz] Iraq's firm stance of long standing— from its revolution in 1968 and until today— is that the security of the Arab Gulf is united; the security of the Arab Gulf countries, including Iraq, is one. We believe a maximum of coordination and joint work among the Arab Gulf countries is necessary to safeguard their pan-Arab security and the international security in confronting Iranian threats, and in safeguarding the Arab Gulf independent of foreign influence and interference.

[Kamal] The Gulf countries support Iraq. What is your view on the Gulf stance in general?

['Aziz] Actually, I do not want to be "diplomatic" about the reality in this issue. There is no doubt that the fraternal Gulf countries in general have supported Iraq. The means, methods, and levels of support differ from one case to another. But we believe, not out of criticism of our brothers in the Gulf, but out of a belief that all Arab countries and countries such as those in the Gulf which are being similarly threatened should work jointing to confront the threat effectively. This is not intended as a complaint about the level of support, but as an idea to make our enemies understand that we are one front and will confront them when there is a need for it.

[Kamal] What if Iran hits one of the vital installations in a Gulf country — such as Bahrain, Kuwait, or Qatar, or another country — such as desalination stations, or oil wells or resources?

['Aziz] Certainly, we should expect anything from the Iranian enemy. The Iranian regime is currently in a critical situation, in a military, political, and diplomatic dilemma. It faces two possibilities: either it accepts the logic of peace or it resorts to adventures and thoughtlessness. For Iran, the Iraqi front is a front which it has tried several times and it knows that if it decides to attack the Iraqi front once again it will be like someone who hits his head on an iron wall. Thus it is possible that this regime might resort to adventures which aim at the Gulf countries. It actually started when it hit the Kuwaiti and Saudi ships. Thus we believe that the Gulf countries should raise the level of their readiness to confront these possibilities.

[Kamal] Do you think that the Gulf countries should respond severely even if they entered the war?

['Aziz] We see that each state in the Gulf assesses the method it pursues in defending itself and the extent of doing so. We don't support expanding the war and we don't encourage it because we seek to stop the war between us and Iran. It is wrong for anyone to believe that Iraq is seeking to expand the war in order to reach peace, because this would be like one who jumps out of the frying pan to the fire. And this is wrong. The Iraqi leadership does not ever think of this superficial and illegitimate method. However, we believe that the Gulf states should reply to aggression, when subjected to it, with effective means, and they know — as I have pointed out — the means that are more fruitful and the extent they can reach in defending their security, sovereignty, and basic interests.

[Kamal] The fraternal Arab Republic of Egypt has for some time been supplying Iraq with some weapons as aid. Has Egypt's aid to Iraq progressed and to what extent?

['Aziz] The fact is that we purchased, and for quite a long period of time, significant quantities of weapons and equipment from the Egyptian brothers. This is natural because we are in a state of war and we need weapons and ammunition, and if an Arab source is providing them for us, it is natural that we should buy

them from it. The fact is that Egypt has continued to fulfill our requirements with a fraternal spirit and through the method of aid that conforms to relations between two fraternal countries. And at certain times Egypt provided us with aid for which we are thankful, but the overall military cooperation between us and Egypt is that Egypt either equips Iraq or sells it the specific items that are available.

[Kamal] I mean hasn't this led to sending Egyptian forces to Iraq or to the seconding of Egyptian pilots to the Iraqi forces?

['Aziz] This never happened. I wish to point out that there were Egyptian volunteers who took part in the war. I affirm that they did not take part upon the instructions of the Egyptian Government. They were Arab citizens living in Iraq; their zeal and national commitment made them take part in the battle as members of the popular army. Not a single person from the Egyptian Armed Forces took part in the Iraqi military effort.

[Kamal] Was 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's recent visit to Iraq made at an Arab request to propose an initiative to Iran? If this is true, what are the outlines of this initiative?

['Aziz] In fact I cannot answer this question officially because we are not a party to the visit which Khaddam made to Tehran. However, my personal information is that he did not go to Tehran at an Arab request. My assessment is that the Syrian regime attempted to look as if it was — as it claims — seeking to prevent expansion of the conflict between Iran and the Gulf states. My information too is that he was not given any firm assurances by Iran in this regard. The evidence is that following his return from Iran and in spite of the claims made by him and by the Syrian foreign minister, Iran continued its attacks on the Kuwaiti and Saudi ships. This shows that he did not obtain any promises from Iran that it would not continue the aggression against the Gulf states.

My belief is that this visit is Syrian propaganda aimed at concealing the Syrian alliance with Iran in its war against Iraq and its threats to the Arabian Gulf security. The Syrians are trying to separate this from that. That is an attempt to separate Iran's war against Iraq from Iran's threats to the Arabian Gulf states. But this is an artificial separation which no one believes in. The Gulf countries believe that the war against Iraq is associated with their security and future. Therefore, the Syrian stand is artificial and is meant to cover the real alliance which exists between the Syrian regime and the Iranian regime.

[Kamal] Doesn't his excellency the minister believe that separating the issue of hitting oil tankers and threatening Gulf security from the Iraqi-Iranian war is to some degree in Iraq's interest and in the interest of the Iraqi siege of Khark Island? For example, if an international institution orders a stop to attacks on tankers including the Iraqi siege over Khark, what would your opinion be?

['Aziz] We don't oppose a universal decision to stop military operations in the Gulf region. There is a difference between a decision which bans everyone from hitting tankers and another decision which says: Everyone is banned from carrying out any military activity in the Gulf region. Resolution No 540 issued by the UN Security Council on 31 October 1983 states that all military operations in the Gulf region should be stopped, and all countries surrounding the Gulf should be granted foreign trade rights and use of ports and waterways. We accepted this resolution and still adhere to our stand. But Iran wants to prove that it has the right to prevent Iraq from using its ports and waters. Shouldn't Iraq then hit its ports and the ships that use them? This is an unbalanced and illogical situation, and we don't accept what is illogical and unbalanced. When Iran accepts UN Resolution 540 this will provide protection for all tankers whether heading to the Iranian or Arab ports against the possibilities of military threats. As I have said we have a comprehensive view of security, stability and free trade in the Arabian Gulf region.

[Kamal] Was Iraq subjected to any form of pressure by the friendly countries so as to end the siege over Khark Island after the Gulf tankers were hit?

['Aziz] No. In fact no such pressure was imposed on us, but there were some discussions between us and some countries on this problem. We explained our stand; all these countries understood it because the political basis and the legal basis of the Iraqi stand is sound. It agrees with UN Security Council Resolution 540 and with international law.

[Kamal] It is known that Iraq demanded the implementation of the joint Arab defense agreement. Was this discussed during the emergency Arab foreign ministers' conference which was held in Baghdad? And what was the stand of the Arab states on this demand?

['Aziz] Yes. In fact when we held the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers in March we told our Arab brothers that there was an joint Arab defense agreement which said that any threat posed to any Arab country is considered a threat to all the Arab countries. We do not want to burden any Arab country with what it cannot afford, and we do not want any Arab country to adopt a stand which it does not wish to adopt.Seventeen Arab states in the meeting supported the resolution that was issued by the meeting and which: 1. Condemned the continuing Iranian aggression against Iraq 2. Called for peace and warned Iran that continuing its aggression against Iraq would affect its relations with Arab states, and affirmed the Arab states' commitment to the joint Arab defense agreement. Only two of the Arab countries which took part in that meeting expressed reservations. They were Algeria which reserved the entire resolution and the PDRY which reserved only one item of the resolution but not all of it.

[Kamal] There are reports about a Palestinian initiative calling for stationing an Islamic force along the Iraq-Iran borders. Did Iraq receive such an initiative, and what is Iraq's position toward it?

['Aziz] We heard from the news bulletins that Brother Yasir 'Arafat called for a summit meeting of the Islamic Good Offices Committee and that he intends to initiate one, but he did not make any official contact with us, because the meeting has not yet been held. As the news said, it is hoped that this meeting will take place in the coming days. Iraq has previously agreed on initiatives such as a cease-fire and the stationing of Islamic forces, or nonaligned international forces, or UN forces for the

disengagement of troops and for the supervision of the cease-fire agreement. This is an old and constant Iraqi position.

[Kamal] Some U.S. circles claim that the U.S. policy toward the Gulf war is biased toward Iraq although some pro-U.S. countries still continue to supply Iran with arms. How do you assess the U.S. policy toward the war and toward the region in general?

['Aziz] The United States was not been concerned about the continuation of the war until last autumn, which means that it has not been concerned about any efforts that may put an end to the war. Some U.S. circles believed that the continuation of the war is in the interests of the United States. Last autumn, the United States began to reconsider the situation and began to feel that the continuation of war between Iraq and Iran could threaten its interests and the interests of its allies in the region and in the world. On the basis of this consideration which absolutely does not have any bias toward Iraq and which only reflects a new political and strategic assessment by the United States, it began to make make some attempts to end to the war. However, these initiatives were not effective in contributing to ending the war; but they are considered to be a positive change. When an superpower like the United States reassesses the situation and feels that the continuation of the war poses a threat to it and to its allies, this is a positive development. We definitely note this progress and strive to develop it to help end to the war.

The U.S. side told us that it conferred with its allies and stressed the necessity of halting the arms supply to Iran, because Iran insists on continuing the war and threatening the security and stability of the region.

U.S. officials also told us that some of their initiatives have achieved some success, although allies ofthe United States still maintain strong relations with Iran and offer various kinds of military assistance. This in itself reveals a contradiction in the stands and indicates that the Western alliance is not united to work sincerely and seriously to end the war.

[Kamal] It has been reported that the ROK is one of these countries. This country as you know has many ties of cooperation and transactions with Iraq. What is the stand of Iraq toward it?

['Aziz] The ROK says that it did not supply arms to Iran. Others say that it did supply it in the past, but will not supply it in the future. For my part I cannot confirm or deny the ROK statements. There is a ROK delegation in Baghdad at present. We will discuss this matter with it. We will continue to follow the ROK stand so as to verify such ROK statements. Of course we think that any country which supplies Iran with weapons and military aid is practically adopting a hostile stand toward Iraq and the Arab countries as a whole. As you know the seven-member committee which stemmed from the Baghdad emergency meeting was entrusted with the task of contacting, in the name of the Arab countries, the countries which supply Iran with weapons asking that they stop doing so, thereby contributing to the efforts aimed at ending the war.

[Kamal] Has the United States exerted pressure on Israel so that it will stop supplying Iran with weapons?

['Aziz] I cannot give a precise view on this matter. Only God knows the secrets of the U.S.-Israeli relationship.

[Kamal] Some circles said that Iraq has received more weapons from Soviet Union than both Syria and Ethiopia together?

['Aziz] I do not know the type and quantity of weapons which Syria and Ethiopia received from the Soviet Union so as to assess this matter, but I can say that Iraq is receiving effective weapons from the Soviet Union. The cooperation in the military field between Iraq and the Soviet Union is progressing in a satisfactory way.

[Kamal] An Iranian official has recently visited the Soviet Union in a mission whose purpose was quite known. Did he succeed in his mission?

['Aziz] So far we have not received any official information about this mission. Therefore I cannot judge the results of this mission.

[Kamal] This means that there has been no change in the Soviet stand toward you as a result of this visit?

['Aziz] Not at all.

[Kamal] After the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers' conference in Baghdad, delegations from the conference visited several countries so as to persuade them to stop supplying Iran with weapons and to decrease their dependence on Iranian oil. Your Excellency, you and His Excellency Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad [Kuwaiti foreign minister] visited Japan. What are the results of these visits, especially the visit to Japan itself?

['Aziz] The visits of the delegations from the seven-member committee were very important. First, it is the first time that Arab delegations representing the Arab group collectively talked to another group of countries about the Arab stand toward the continuation of the Iranian aggression against Iraq. It is the first time that these countries were asked in the name of the Arab group to take steps aimed at ending the war. This in itself is an important development in the Arab and international stands toward the Iranian aggression against Iraq.

These delegations explained clearly and comprehensively the Arab stand. We believe that the countries which have been visited by the committees — which stem from the seven-member committee — will need more time to evaluate the situation and decide on their next steps. That is why we intend to meet during the last week of July to evaluate the stands of the countries which we visited, including Japan. In the light of this evaluation we will decide what the seven-member committee will be able to do on behalf of the Arab group.

I can say that these committees and delegations have achieved success in this framework. I cannot say that the committees and delegations managed to make these countries reach decisions in line with the views of these delegations. This matter should be assessed at the end of July so that we know which countries have been convinced, how far they have been convinced, and what steps were taken and will be taken in the future so that they can express the situation clearly.

[Kamal] But it has appeared now that Japan decided not to send its tankers to Khark Island. Was this the result of your visit to Japan?

['Aziz] I don't think so. Japan's decision is the result of the present situation around Khark Island. The owners of the Japanese ships are not in a position to endanger their ships by sending them to a region that is militarily threatened.

[Kamal] As you know, Iran has recently been postponing and changing the time of its offensive which it announced 2 months ago. What is your analysis of this matter?

['Aziz] What Iran called the final and decisive offensive was in fact the offensive which took place last February. The offensive was stopped and crushed and Iran suffered huge losses. Then Iran went on talking about another offensive and calling it the same name. We are very well prepared for the new offensive. Iran is observing the situation and is watching the Iraqi preparations. My personal assessment is that the Iranian military officials who are capable of an objective calculation of the situation are very apprehensive regarding possible results of an offensive. They know that their offensive will be crushed and that they will suffer huge losses. Thus, the natural thing for them is to hesitate in carrying out the offensive. The reports coming from international circles and being published indicate such hesitation. If a hesitation exists, it is the result of the Iraqi ability to crush this offensive and inflict huge losses on the Iranian attackers. But some of the Iranian regime's elements — as is known — want the offensive to be resumed without caring about the results or the losses they will certainly suffer. In all cases we deal with the situation from the premise that the offensive will take place and we shall crush it, God willing.

[Kamal] Do you believe that peace advocates in the Iranian regime have increased lately?

['Aziz] In fact, I can neither deny this nor confirm it. We have to wait and see.

[Kamal] Western reports said that Iraq hit an Iranian nuclear reactor last March. Why didn't Iraq comment on this at the time?

['Aziz] Because we did not hit it. The Iranians made up this incident for many reasons, one of which was the anticipated arrival of the nuclear energy committee and the attempt to confuse the Iraqi position. But this attempt failed and the Iranian complaint was not recorded as an official complaint because it was baseless.

[Kamal] How has Iraq been able to reconcile the continuation of development plans with the continuation of war?

['Aziz] By willpower, determination, and sound planning to exploit all human and material resources for continuing life, development and self-defense. Iraq, thanks be to God, has been able to fulfill a historical achievement in the contemporary Arab history by not surrendering politically or militarily and by foiling the enemy plan to stop development and growth in the country. As President Saddam Husayn has said on more than one occasion, the basis of the hostile plan against Iraq, which Zionism has promoted and encouraged, is to stop growth and development in Iraq. For this reason we have believed and we still believe that the continuation of growth and development, in addition to being natural aims, are a process for confronting the Zionist plot and the Iranian plot which aim at hindering progress and growth in our country and all Arab countries.

[Kamal] They say that even prior to the aggression of the Iranian regime in hitting Saudi and Kuwaiti tankers, the Iraqi-Iranian war has been the reason for the economic recession and the negative effects in the economies of the GCC countries. What is your opinion?

['Aziz] In fact I am not an economic expert and I cannot express an opinion on this matter. However, in view of the threats to the region in the past and even today, the Iraqi-Iranian war will inevitably have repercussions on the region's economic activity — and as you know economic activity requires security and stability.

When a group of people in a specific region realize that security and stability in its region have been lacking for a long period there will be no desire for or ability to carry out extensive long-term economic activities. With regard to this aspect, I will say yes, this view is correct. However,I am personally not familiar with economic and technical aspects.

At the end of the interview, Tariq 'Aziz offered an analysis of Iran and the Iranian stand and said: I ask you, do Iran's history, present conditions, and psychology suggest that when the hand of brotherhood and the hand of peace are extended, it will accept? If the answer is yes, then it is a beautiful thing. But if its psychology, its history, and its present all suggest that when the hand of peace and brotherhood is extended, Iran tries to cut off this hand or at least belittles those who extend it — and views such a offer as weakness — then this is something else.

[Kamal] According to my information this is the 10th war between the Arabs and the Persians. Is it likely that the Arabs will enter into other wars even if the current situation calms down?

['Aziz] The Persians will not stop their hostilities against the Arabs until they find the Arabs prepared to defend themselves with force, resoluteness, and unwavering determination. When the Arabs reach this conclusion, the Persians will end their hostilities against the Arabs.

[Kamal] What is your opinion of the activities of the Iranian opposition, whether inside or outside Iran?

['Aziz] In fact, the Iranian regime has run out of excuses. The Iranian regime is not fit for the future of Iran. The question is how long can this regime survive? This is a matter I cannot judge. However, there is an important historical thing in that the Khomeyni regime and the regime of the mullahs in Iran has failed to become the regime of Iran's future as it has claimed to be. This in itself is a serious historic development in Iran. However, who will fall and who will rise is a matter governed by

other factors which will inevitably emerge when a certain regime loses pretexts for its existence. I am very sure of this.

'Aziz Receives Message From Britain's Howe

JN181329 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1148 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jun (INA) — Following the messages which Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister, sent to the foreign ministers of the industrialized countries during their meeting in London earlier this month, 'Aziz has received a reply from Sir Geoffrey Howe, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs. The reply message was conveyed to Tariq 'Aziz when he received John Campbell Moberley, the British ambassador in Baghdad today.

It has been learned that Tariq 'Aziz' messages to the seven industrial countries' foreign ministers dealt with the developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

Government Aids Brazilian Arms Development Project

PY161544 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Jun 84 p 19

[By Milton F. da Rocha Filho]

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo — The multiple rocket launcher, which is mounted on a truck convoy, known as Astros and manufactured by Avibras [Brazilian Aviation Company] in Sao Jose dos Campos is being partly financed by Iraq, which is the main purchaser. An executive of the arms industry has estimated Astros sales at about $550 million.

According to the same sources, the financing of new product development is made under contracts which include a secrecy clause; they are a down payment on purchases. In the Astros case, the initial project was submitted to the Iraqi Government which approved it and provided an unrevealed amount of funding for its development.

Oil Minister Meets Arms Manufacturers in Rio

PY151840 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1550 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Iraqi Oil Minister Ahmad Taqi is today visiting the Petrobras office in Rio de Janeiro. He is meeting with representatives of Specialized Engineers Inc., and of Avibras, both arms manufacturers. He is also meeting with representatives of Volkswagen and of the Mendes Junior construction company. These meetings are designed to expand trade between the two countries. Iraq is today Brazil's leading oil supplier with an average of 160,000 barrels daily.

INA Cites IDF Radio on Iran-Israel Contacts

JN181633 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jun (INA) — The Zionist army radio has confirmed the contacts that took place between Iranian and Zionist officials. In a commentary today, the radio said that these contacts came as a result of efforts the Swiss Embassy in Paris exerted to enable Iran to puchase Israeli weapons.

On another level, news agencies cited the Zionist newspaper *DAVAR* as saying that these contacts were held at the request of Iranian officials, who wanted the Zionist entity to continue implementing the agreement on maintaining and repairing the Iranian Air Force's aircraft engines.

UN Envoy Conveys Message to Perez de Cuellar

JN181736 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1705 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] United Nations, 18 Jun (INA) — Riyad al-Qaysi, Iraq's permanent UN representative, has conveyed a message to the UN secretary general on the Iranian regime's bombardment of civilian targets inside Iraqi territory. The message includes the text of the Iraqi military communique issued on 11 June.

Al-Qaysi's message was circulated as a Security Council document. The message shows that a number of citizens were killed or wounded, and that civilian installations and houses in Iraqi cities were demolished or damaged by the Iranian artillery shelling.

Sabri al-Banna's Presence in Baghdad Denied

JN151228 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Reports from Amman say that the Iraqi authorities have officially informed the Jordanian Government that the reports disseminated on the presence of Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] in Baghdad are baseless.

Our correspondent in Amman Fu'ad Na'im says that the Iraqi authorities were clear and firm in stressing that Abu Nidal, a Fatah dissident, has not returned to Baghdad since the Iraqi authorities closed his office in Baghdad and expelled him from Iraq on 24 November last year.

King Husayn Receives Saudi Prince Bandar

JN181917 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received His Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi ambassador to the United States, at An-Nadwah Palace this evening. Prince Bandar conveyed to his majesty the king a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan attended the meeting.

King Husayn To Go To Iraq for Summit Talks

LD190844 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Muhammad al-Musa dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Amman, 19 June — Reliable sources said here today that Jordan will continue its contacts with heads of Arab countries with a view to bolstering Arab solidarity in the face of developments in the Arab arena.

The sources told the KUNA correspondent in the Jordanian capital that King Husayn will go to Iraq today within the framework of these contacts and that Jordanian-Iraqi summit talks will begin later this evening in Baghdad to evaluate the situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front from all aspects, including the situation in the Gulf and the dangers inherent in the continuation of this war.

The talks will also cover current Arab issues from the point of view of their dimensions, facts, and the coordination of the Arab position toward them.

This is the second time King Husayn has visited Iraq within 2 months. The last visit took place on 21 April.

King Husayn recently toured Gulf countries, visiting Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, and the UAE.

King Husayn is expected to acquaint Iraqi President Saddam Husayn with the results of his talks with Gulf leaders he visited.

The sources said that a Jordanian delegation comprising Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat; chief of the royal cabinet, Marwan al-Qasim; and other senior officials will accompany King Husayn on his visit to Iraq.

Syria's Khaddam Continues Visit, Talks

Meetings Continue

NC181451 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam began the second round of Lebanese-Syrian talks at the High Hill Hotel in Bikfayya at 1600. Our correspondent in Bikfayya has the following report:

[Begin recording] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president, began his second round of talks at the High Hill Hotel in Bikfayya. At 1600, he met with Amal Movement representative Muhammad Baydun on behalf of Minister Nabih Birri, who is indisposed. The Syrian vice president will receive Minister Walid Junblatt at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya at 1700. Khaddam will receive [former] President Camille Sham'un and Pierre al-Jumayyil at 1800. Prime Minister Rashid Karami joined the meeting that was held between Khaddam and Amal official Muhammad Baydun. It is evident that this round of talks will focus on the security issue and on all pertinent political topics. This was made clear when Khaddam told Baydun: The situation in Beirut must not continue like this. We must find a solution. The first round of talks dealt with all topics. Comprehensive discussions will be resumed at the bilateral meetings and during tonight's Ramadan banquet. [end recording]

The first round of talks between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam ended at 1400. During the 4-hour meeting, both sides discussed the means of implementing the agreements reached during the Geneva and Lausanne conferences, as well as the national unity government's policy statement. Informed sources said the agenda of the Lebanese-Syrian talks is comprehensive and deals with all issues, particularly those pertaining to the Army and to security arrangements in the south. Lebanese officials expressed the hope that these talks will resolve all outstanding problems and, consequently, will bring about an agreement among the various sides over the issues that have so far impeded the government's work.

In a related development, Information Minister Joseph Skaf expressed the hope that the Lebanese-Syrian talks will yield positive results, adding: We expect good results out of our conviction that the continuing dialogue between Syria and Lebanon is the ideal road toward resolving our problems, which are reflecting negatively on the situation in Lebanon. Minister Skaf said: We reiterate the need for preserving the best relations between Lebanon and Syria. Any dialogue between Syria and Lebanon is bound to contribute to overcoming many of the problems that face Lebanon under these difficult and fateful circumstances.

Telephones Birri in Hospital

NC190552 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Immediately upon arrival in Bikfayya yesterday, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president, telephoned Minister Nabih Birri in the hospital to inquire about his health. Khaddam phoned Birri again following the meeting held between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Karami, and Khaddam, in order to brief Minister Birri on the talks. After the second telephone call, Birri sent Amal Movement member Dr Muhammad Baydun to Bikfayya where he met with Khaddam and Karami. Baydun conveyed a message from Minister Birri regarding his views on the most important topics on the agenda for the talks. Dr Baydun then returned to Beirut and briefed Minister Birri on the outcome of the meeting.

As Minister Birri was meeting with Dr Baydun in the presence of several members of the Amal Movement Political Bureau, Khaddam called him for the third time. Prime Minister Karami also contacted Minister Birri.

During the telephone calls, Minister Birri conveyed his unwavering support for any security plan if it aims at consolidating the cease-fire, cancels the contact lines, eliminates armed barricades, collects heavy weapons, and ensures the reopening of the crossing points as well as the reopening of the airport and the port. Minister Birri affirmed that the Amal Movement's stand is firm and that it is ready to cooperate in order to rescue the inhabitants from the unjustified deteriorating security situation.

As for the other issues, specifically the issue of the Army, Minister Birri agreed in principle pending the disclosure of all details, which are supposed to be implemented in accordance with the legal and constitutional regulations, namely, through Cabinet decisions. Prime Minister Karami is scheduled to meet with Minister Birri today to brief him on the outcome of the talks.

Talks 'Shrouded in Secrecy'

JN181847 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1700 GMT 18 Jun 84

[George Bashir dispatch from Beirut]

[Excerpt] Khaddam held talks throughout the day today with President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami; and later with [former] President Sham'un; [former] Prime Ministers 'Usayran and Al-Huss; Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil; Minister Joseph Skaf; Minister Walid Junblatt; and Nabih Birri's representative, Dr Muhammad Abydun — as Birri was indisposed and forced to stay in the hospital. These talks have been intensive, and will end tonight.

Khaddam is expected to return to Damascus after a banquet to break the fast. President al-Jumayyil will give it in honor of his guest. It will be attended by state officials and Cabinet members. I have learned that Kamil al-As'ad, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, will not attend this banquet.

The Lebanese-Syrian talks, which have been shrouded in secrecy, focused on how the government can maintain security; on how a strong security tool, particularly the Army, can be established; on the security arrangements in the south; and on removing both the obstacles facing the government and even the mines planted to prevent the government from implementing the national commitments it promised in its policy statement.

These talks are an extension of the secret summit talks that Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad held in the Syrian capital this year on Tuesday, 29 May. I have learned that during this summit, which lasted 10 hours, the Lebanese authority noted that President al-Asad and Damascus are eager to continue their support for Lebanon so that it can achieve salvation and prevent anyone at all from putting obstacles in front of the Lebanese Government. This is because Damascus considers such obstacles as part of the plan to achieve Israel's strategy in the Lebanese arena. On that day, President al-Asad and other top Syrian officials were careful to receive President al-Jumayyil at the airport. The Syrian side to the talks was chaired by Al-Asad, and included Vice President Khaddam and Minister of Defense General Mustafa Talas.

Today, the Syrian vice president was apparently greatly concerned about the security situation in Beirut, particularly in the western sector, in the wake of the recent turbulence there.

Statements Made After Talks

NC182111 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Before leaving Bikfayya this evening, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president told journalists the following: President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Karami, the brother Lebanese ministers, and I held several rounds of in-depth talks that dealt with all aspects of the Lebanese situation. We discussed ways and means of implementing the government program, strengthening the state's authority, and achieving security. What could be called an agreement was reached on a number of issues. This can help the Lebanese Government overcome the present situation and to move to a new one. The atmosphere was positive and the approach of all the brothers was also positive. All expressed a firm and clear determination to overcome the crisis and to make the national unity government succeed in achieving the objectives for which it had been formed.

Asked about security and whether a comprehensive plan has been approved, Khaddam said: All matters were discussed. I can express my satisfaction over the results of the talks. Asked to reveal the points of the agreement, he said: The Cabinet, as I understood from President al-Jumayyil, will meet to discuss these matters and make decisions on them.

Asked about the possibility of the Syrian Forces' return to Beirut if there were such a need, Khaddam said: This subject was not discussed, and is not up for discussion. Asked about practical ways to work out security arrangements in the south in light of Israeli threats, he said: The issue of the south was discussed as a basic issue of interest to all the Lebanese who have expressed their desire to liberate the south.

Khaddam was asked: During the term of the previous government, you visited Lebanon more than once and said more than once that the war in Lebanon cannot last for years, months, or weeks. Yet it has continued until today. Can you say today that the war will end? Khaddam replied: If we take the attitude displayed by the brothers with whom we talked as an example, we can say that there is a start that will lead to a new era in Lebanon. Asked about Syria's role in this regard, Khaddam said: Syria, at the instructions of President al-Asad, will provide everything it can to help the national unity government achieve its objectives in realizing security and national peace and in liberating the south.

Prime Minister Karami pointed out that Khaddam's visit was successful and fruitful. He said: The talks covered the security situation and the measures and arrangements that must be taken in order to consolidate security and to restore normal life. Agreement was reached on a number of matters. All these fall within the framework of the required measures to take the country out of this difficult crisis. We are all confident that these agreed upon measures, which will be put into effect soon after the next Cabinet session and after they are put in the required legal form, will inevitably lead us to the desired objectives.

Karami pointed out that the Cabinet will meet Wednesday [20 June] and that what was agreed upon will be issued in the form of Cabinet decisions. He added: There is no doubt that there is a security plan and a tool for its implementation; namely, the Army and the Internal Security Forces. Regarding the reopening of the airport, the port, and the crossing points, Karami said all these will undoubtedly run their natural course and, God willing, will be soon.

Regarding security arrangements in the south, he said: This is a separate subject, and there will be many occasions to discuss it and to arrive at what must be done. Asked whether the argument about the military establishment has been settled, Karami said: I imagine so.

Army Control Plan Approved

OW190049 Hong Kong AFP in English 0014 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Beirut, June 19 (AFP) — Syrian mediator 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam got the tentative approval of Lebanese Christian leaders here Monday of the rough draft of a plan to give Moslems a share of control over the Army, an informed source said Monday night. The government might soon abrogate Decrees 10 and 102 of 1983 that strengthened the powers of the Army commander in chief and gave the Army full powers concerning internal security, said a source close to Premier Rashid Karami.

Those decrees would be replaced by a new law inspired by the 1979 Defense Law. It would institute collective command of the Army by representatives of all faiths and set up a Supreme Defense Council.

Syrian Vice-President Khaddam and Lebanese leaders also put finishing touches on a detailed security plan for this capital and its suburbs due to be ratified by the Cabinet on Wednesday, the premier said. Premier Karami said the plan aims to "consolidate the ceasefire, reopen crossing points between the two sectors (Moslem and Christian) of Beirut, and re-establish activity of the port and airport."

Mr. Khaddam had nine hours of talks with leaders of the various factions and members of the government. Then he drove back to

Damascus in an armour-plated Cadillac. His trip here was intended to end the six-week-old paralysis of Mr. Karami's Cabinet. The Syrian Vice-President said agreement had been reached "on a certain number of questions likely to help the Lebanese administration get out of the deadlock." Premier Karami commented that the talks resulted in "a comprehensive group of concrete measures." They concerned a security plan for the Army and gendarmes to maintain order in Beirut, he specified. "It seems to me that the conflict over the Army has been resolved."

All the ministers were at an Iftar (meal interrupting the Ramadan fast) given by President Amin al-Jumayyil in Mr Khaddam's honor. Afterwards, the vice president talked with top officials of the two Christian parties, the Phalange and National Liberal Party. He had already conferred with the chairmen of those parties, Pierre al-Jumayyil and Camille Sha'mun.

Talks Described as Positive

NC190645 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Yesterday's talks with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president, were described as positive. It has been reported that the talks dealt with an agreement over a political plan to be implemented soon. The talks also dealt with the issue of creating a directorate for national security and redeploying the Army in greater Beirut after reviving [as heard] the Military Council.

Visit Concluded, Khaddam Departs

NC190640 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president, left for Damascus at 2200 yesterday, concluding several hours of talks with Lebanese officials in an attempt to heal the rift among members of the national unity Cabinet. This Cabinet has thus far failed to hold a meeting despite the fact that it won a vote of confidence by the Chamber of Deputies 1 week ago.

Karami Briefs Birri on Talks With Khaddam

NC190919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] At 1015 Prime Minister Rashid Karami called on lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, at An-Najjar Hospital. During the 1-hour meeting, Prime Minister Karami briefed Minister Birri on the results of the talks held in Bikfayya yesterday between Lebanese officials and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Pierre al-Jumayyil Rejects Syrian Forces's Return

NC151700 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] The members of the Phalange Party Political Bureau stressed at their meeting today that they will not make concessions under political and military pressure. In a statement to the *AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI* magazine, Phalange leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said the opposition is openly attempting to change the regime. He said it is relying on the military machine and armed revolution as a tool to implement its demands and objectives.

Answering a question, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil rejected any Syrian return not only to Beirut, but also to any area from which the Syrian Army has already withdrawn. The Phalange leader said that any Syrian insistence on returning will be met by a Phalange insistence on not allowing this plan to be achieved. He added: We will naturally try to deal with the issue through diplomatic and political means, but if this proves to be ineffective then we will have no choice but to resort to a military struggle because the soil must be liberated if not amicably then by force. Let anyone who knows of another way tell us about it.

The Phalange leader briefed the Political Bureau on the government actions and the difficulties of the current stage. He called for caution and vigilance and for remaining in a state of readiness in order to face developments. Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil stressed the need to increase the membership of the Phalange Party, and to strengthen the party at all levels because the country and the Christian people now need this party whose struggle is linked with Lebanon's modern history. Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil pointed out that no one can replace the Phalange Party,which has grown in a natural way during the past 47 years and which has gained the confidence of the people, leaderships, and local, regional, and international circles.

Pierre Al-Jumayyil Accuses Left of Fighting Democracy

NC181223 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil this afternoon chaired the weekly meeting of the Phalange Party's Political Bureau and Central Council. The current political and security situations were discussed. Shaykh Pierre stressed during the meeting the importance of party discipline and good virtues. He said Lebanon is the only country in the area which is practicing true democracy, but the left rejects this democracy and is fighting it under the guise of political reform. The Phalange Party leader spoke of the Christian's right to freedom and to practice all his rights in this homeland and in this part of the world. He said that Lebanon is going through a very difficult stage. He said: We are looking for a way and a formula acceptable to all Lebanese. The Phalange leader expressed the hope that this homeland would be restored to its former standard after the destruction that has befallen it.

Minister al-Huss Calls for Changing Army Command

NC152040 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Answering a question on the political authority's responsibility for the Military Command's conduct and Army actions, Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of labor and national education, replied in a special press statement:

Even if we assume for the sake of argument that the Army Command is not responsible for the destruction but the political authority is, logic dictates that the command should be changed when moving from one political climate to another one, from the climate of war to the climate of peace. The command, which became a party in the war, should leave and a new command should take over during the peace phase in which all the parties have confidence, in order to bolster the Army's role in the new phase and its position among all the people.

Al-Huss went on to say: We are the advocates of giving the Lebanese Army an effective role in maintaining security and restoring stability to all of Lebanon on the basis of the realization that the Army is indispensable and there is no substitute for it in such a role and under the deteriorating conditions in the country. But Al-Huss added: This is not to say that the Army should be a party to the internal struggle. The Army cannot be, should not be, and it is not right for it to be involved in the internal struggle. He said that the fundamental condition for the Army's success in any security task entrusted to him is to be above the struggle. This cannot be done unless the political authority, which entrusts the Army with the task, is itself above the struggle.

Army Commander Fadi Afram Addresses U.S. Press Club

NC151904 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1645 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Addressing the U.S. Press Club in Washington, the commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, Mr Fadi Afram, said, I quote:

By the mid-70's Lebanon had become occupied by PLO and Syrian Armed Forces. The Lebanese Army, police, and central government could not withstand the military and political presence of the occupation forces, and so, they disintegrated. Therefore, the Lebanese Forces were established to resist external aggression and occupation. It did not take very long for the Lebanese Forces to become the symbol and mechanism of Lebanese liberation for both Christians and Muslims, so that in 1982, we witnessed the election of our late leader Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil to the presidency of Lebanon by Christian, Druze, and Muslim members of Parliament.

Today, the Lebanese Forces are as determined as ever to follow in Bashir's footsteps to liberate all of Lebanon, to defend the rights of free Christianity in Lebanon in the context of overall religious freedom for all, to make peace with our neighbors, and to strengthen our relations with the West, especially with the United States. The Lebanese Forces are determined to see the end of Syria's domination of Lebanon and of its central government and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from our land.

The old system did not work. We advocate a traditional Lebanese method of face-to-face negotiations between the leaders and representatives of the various Lebanese religious communities to establish the modalities for moving from war to peace and reconstruction. Dialogue and historical compromises are the only road to peace in Lebanon. War and violence did not work for any faction, group, or community. We cannot and would not advocate negative policies in Lebanon or elsewhere. We are cooperative people and we long for the day when we can live normal, secure, and fulfilling lives. We refuse, however, to be marginalized, neglected, and relegated to second-class status like all other Christian communities in the Muslim Middle East. We refuse to remain part of the conflict spiral and war syndrome in the region. Instead, the Lebanese Forces prefer to make peace with Israel, Syria, and other in the region.

The United States, on the other hand, announced the Reagan plan, which effectively linked the Lebanese conflict with the Arab-Israeli one and therefore reduced the chances of stabilizing Lebanon. The Israeli-U.S. quarrels over all sorts of policies, objectives, and approaches to the Middle East worked to weaken the causes of both countries and, in turn, of Lebanon and many other states and groups in the region. [words indistinct] underestimating the Syrians' menace in Lebanon and the region and relying on Saudi Arabia to influence Syria was a serious mistake. Underestimating the consequences of the Soviet-Syrian marriage of convenience with the goal of depriving the United States of its exceptional diplomatic successes in the peace process was disastrous. Failing to weaken Syria's presence in Lebanon and terminate it presented the Syrian regime with the opportunity to regroup and rearm itself with all sorts of sophisticated Soviet weapons.

The inability and unwillingness to act decisively against those who encourage groups and states to adopt similar tactics and to attack U.S. personnel, facilities, and interests [words indistinct] concern. We believe that the United States is sufficiently aware that there is a direct relationship between the stability of Lebanon and that of the whole region. We are convinced that the United States cannot permit the Middle East to become a haven for radical terrorism and for Soviet dominations. There is a substantial heightening in the level of ethnic and religious intolerance which will make it very difficult for non-Muslims, and let me venture to say it will make it very difficult for modernizing Muslims to experience one day of social peace in that region.

We, the Lebanese Forces, believe that this is an opportune time to discuss new approaches to U.S.-Lebanese relations in context. We propose the establishment of a U.S.-Lebanese committee to facilitate face-to-face dialogue between representatives of the Lebanese communities.

That was the full declaration of the commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, Mr Fadi Afram, in Washington.

Fadi Afram Interviewed on Factional Relationships

PM150838 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 15 Jun 84 pp 14-18

[Interview with Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram by Shirbil Zughayb — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] *AL-HAWADITH*: You have said you will oppose the government constructively. The Phalange Party is represented in the government. Does this mean that [Phalange Party Leader]Pierre al-Jumayyil does not represent the "Lebanese Forces" in the Government?

Afram: Such questions are asked of us more than 10 times a day, on the relationship between the Phalange Party and the forces, and between the forces and the government, and how the opposition would be conducted since a large number of the Lebanese Forces members are Phalange Party members. The focal point in our attitude is that the present size and status of the Lebanese Forces are not the same as the size and status of a political party. Their conduct is not based on the logic of a political party. The size of the Lebanese Forces is the size of the entire Christian community, and its reasoning and political attitudes are based on the interests of the whole community. No parallel should therefore be drawn between the attitude of the Phalange Party, which is a political attitude — the president of the republic came from that party which is thus supposed to support the president — and the attitude of the Lebanese Forces which transcends all party logic. This matter should be viewed as follows: There are two specific positions which are not in conflict with one another.

AL-HAWADITH: Some politicians maintain that the present Karami cabinet will be the last, because it would be impossible to form a new Cabinet if this one fails. In your opinion, has the situation in the country reached that point?

Afram: First of all I want to say that success means to us something quite different from what it means to others. As far as we are concerned this is not the Cabinet we want. We have called it the cabinet of "disappointment" because it is not the best way to Lebanon's salvation. Lebanon's salvation comes through agreement between the Lebanese and not through a Cabinet trying to revive a dead formula. Furthermore, this government will try to implement a policy decided on in Syria. This is not the solution. This government cannot solve Lebanon's problem.

AL-HAWADITH: The present Army structure is based on the 1943 formula. Several other formulas have been proposed for the reorganization of the Army. Which, in your opinion, is the right formula?

Afram: The right formula is the one that stems from our idea of political decentralization and security decentralization which is now a de facto situation on the ground. They talk about the possibility of reuniting the Army but on the ground there is security decentralization that no one can deny or ignore. There are several areas. Each area has its own security structure. This inclination toward reuniting the Army is in fact against the current.

AL-HAWADITH: Who would defend Lebanon's borders?

Afram: This is a subject for discussion. One theory is that the brigades in the various areas should be used when there is a foreign threat. They are supposed to ward off such threats. Another theory favors international neutrality. That is why we should sit down together as Lebanese people and discuss all pending matters.

AL-HAWADITH: Does this mean that you advocate the creation of a Christian Army?

Afram: A Christian Army does exist, just as a Shi'ite Army exists in West Beirut and a Druze Army exists in the mountain area.

AL-HAWADITH: The opposition is calling for a clear declaration naming Israel as Lebanon's main enemy and stating that the Lebanese Army should fight that enemy. If the government grants this request would you fight to defeat it?

Afram: We reject this reasoning because, as I already said, it is the result of a certain policy that seeks to bring Lebanon under complete and total Syrian domination again. Our verdict is clear. We want peace with everyone around us, which means that we are for peace with Israel and Syria, and we are for recognition of Israel and Syria.

AL-HAWADITH: You maintain that no one has an exclusive right to speak on behalf of the Christians. Militarily speaking, you are the only force on the ground, but politically speaking, do you believe that all Christians in the area are loyal to you by choice or is it an imposed loyalty?

Afram: There is no dictatorship in our areas. We proceed on the principle of one united gun and freedom and plurality of political opinion. That is why we see several parties and political trends in the area but only one military force. We will not allow a second military force in this Christian area because that would mean applying the logic of the militias which is unacceptable.

AL-HAWADITH: Let us call a spade a spade. For example, would you allow the nationalist bloc to carry out popular activities and hold political rallies against the Phalange Party and the Lebanese Forces?

Afram: I have said and I repeat that we the Lebanese Forces are not a party and we will not subscribe to the political tendencies which prevailed before the war. We allow all free political expression in our area.

Al-Hawadith: Will the National Liberal Party be allowed to reopen its offices?

Afram: Of course that is allowed. There is no objection to it but it has been agreed that the guns must be united and that there must be no multiplicity of militias, because they have all been united under the Lebanese Forces and there will be no other military organization.

AL-HAWADITH: Rumors are rife about differences within the Lebanese Forces and between the Lebanese Forces and the Phalange Party. Are these rumors true?

Afram: There are two separate logics for the party and the forces. Anyone who does not view the matter on that basis would think that there are differences, but the fact is that there are no differences between us and the party. In regard to the forces themselves, they exist within a certain structure that has developed from a militia into a movement and then into an establishment with its own command. There is no internal disagreement. The rumors are based on fabrications.

AL-HAWADITH: Let us discuss the parallels. If the government were to move on and set up an Army according to its own specifications, and if the militias were to be ordered to hand over their arms and dissolve, with everyone going back to his work, would you be prepared to hand over your arms if the party requested it?

Afram: No, we will never hand over our arms because our position is clear and frank. During the past 1 and ½ years whenever we abandoned our role we were the target of severe criticism for doing so, particularly because we are responsible for [late president] Bashir al-Jumayyil's legacy. The aim of the Lebanese Forces during that period was to give the government a chance to redeem Lebanon. The government tried to build an army on the basis of the 1943 formula so the Lebanese Forces suspended compulsory conscription. Everyone knows what that meant. We also closed the fifth dock, which was our main source of income and we banned the wearing of military uniform in greater Beirut, knowing perfectly well what effect that was going to have on the youth at a time when the mountain war was raging. All these were evidence that the Lebanese Forces were giving up most of their achievements over the first 8 years of the war in order to give the government a chance to go forward. We believe that the government has again failed and we will allow no new experiments at our expense after today.

AL-HAWADITH: Your relations with Israel are clear. What are they based on and how far would you go with Israel?

Afram: We are in favor of normal relations with all our neighbors including Israel and the Arabs. It is now becoming clear to everyone that the Arab-Israeli conflict is no longer what it used to be. It has assumed a different character. It is now a conflict between the free world and the communist world. In the Middle East, Israel represents one and Syria represents the other. The position of the Lebanese Forces is based on the principle that normal relations should be established between the Lebanese people and the Israeli people. We are prepared to pursue this line to the extent which serves the interests of our society and people.

AL-HAWADITH: What would be your reaction if the Lebanese Government decided to close down the Israeli liaison office in Ad-Dubayyah?

Afram: That office is there by agreement between the state of Israel and the state of Lebanon. We have nothing to do with it.

AL-HAWADITH: Israel has created the southern army of Lebanon. Israel is your ally, but it has been noticed that you have no independent and effective presence in the south. How do you explain that?

Afram: We decided to close down the Lebanese Forces barracks in the south because the purpose of the Lebanese Forces presence was defense. We saw no call for defense in the south. We could have used the Lebanese Forces there to cause problems between the sects but instead we decided to shut down our military camps and abolish military action there, and we decided to work more in the social field for the development of the area. We encouraged the large number of Lebanese Forces members who were in the camps and who lived in that area to join the southern army of Lebanon because it can maintain security in the south the best.

AL-HAWADITH: Was the Free Christian Grouping in the south set up by agreement, or in disagreement, with you?

Afram: When the military camps were closed down and the Lebanese Forces presence as a military power was abolished there was a kind of vacuum in the area. That is why there was a move to put together all the decisions adopted at various levels with a view to creating a certain grouping. We issued instructions to the Lebanese Forces elements there to encourage and join that grouping.

AL-HAWADITH: When the 17 May agreement was abrogated, the idea of security arrangements between Lebanon and Israel in the south was suggested. In your view, how will such arrangements be worked out?

Afram: Does Israel really want such arrangements? After the abrogation of the 17 May agreement Israel naturally wants to serve its own interests, which means looking after its own security in the south, especially in view of what happened to the Lebanese Army in Beirut and the attitude of official Lebanon toward Syria. I believe that all these things place Israel in a position where it cannot enter into any agreement with the Lebanese Government. That is why I do not expect these security arrangements to materialize.

AL-HAWADITH: On the question of getting Israel and Syria out of Lebanon there was a reliance on the United States, but it seems that the United States has failed. Do you feel let down by the United States or do you genuinely believe that it cannot do anything?

Afram: We have always said we should not depend solely on the United States because a superpower like the United States cannot get involved in a narrow regional conflict such as ours, and it is not a phantom that can use its power for rescue here and there. That is where Syria was clever in that it embarrassed the United States by trying to get it involved in a conflict in which it cannot get involved. I think it was wrong to attach too much hope and depend completely on the United States, because the United States was in no position to honor its promises or give what it did not have.

Independent Maronites Oppose Palestinians' Return

NC151448 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] The Independent Maronite Parliamentary Bloc today expressed satisfaction with the improved security conditions in the country and called on the government to issue an appeal for a pledge from all parties to stop shelling and to remove all heavy weapons from the cities. In a meeting held in the wake of the confidence vote, the bloc called on the government to reject requests for the return of armed Palestinians to Lebanon. Deputy August Bakhus, speaking on behalf of the group, urged the government to cancel the Cairo agreement [between Palestinians and Lebanon] at once. The Independent Maronite Deputies also

called for prompt steps to restore full Cabinet harmony and expressed surprise over the failure of the Cabinet to tackle urgent questions facing the country. The government was urged to give special attention to problems of humane nature, such as the issue of kidnapped people.

Palestinians, Communists Step Up Military Movements

NC181135 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Security reports say Palestinians have intensified their military movements along the contact lines, particularly in Ash-Shiyah and At-Tayyunah. The 'Arafat and the PFLP-GC groups have brought in more gunmen supported by military equipment under the guise of Hezbollah Party members. The reports said the Communist Action Organization and the [Lebanese] Communist Party have declared full mobilization and have intensified their military activities in an attempt to influence the situation. Gunmen from these two organizations have been seen taking up positions on the contact lines, particularly in the areas of Ra's an-Nab' and Muhammad al-But.

The reports also say a Hezbollah group has obtained forged Lebanese identity cards and has distributed them among a number of their members in Beirut and Al-Biqa' in order to facilitate their terorist actions. Meanwhile, the socialist gunmen yesterday received a number of T-54 tanks from the Syrian Forces. These were moved to the [Ash-Shuf] mountain via the Dahr al-Baydar Road.

In Sir'in, an armed clash took place between the Shakr family, which is close to the Amal Movement, and Nabih Birri, on the one hand, and others from the Al-Musawi family who belong to the Hezbollah on the other. The clash resulted in a number of casualties.

Committee Adopts Security Measures For Beirut

NC181815 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] The Joint Liaison Security Committee — which comprises the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Al-Murabitun — held a meeting this afternoon. The meeting was attended by a delegation representing the Internal Security Forces led by Colonel 'Isam Abu Zaki. The committee adopted a number of measures for the protection of Beirut's inhabitants. These measures will be implemented within the next 24 hours.

French Observers Move to Safer Location

NC161508 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 16 Jun 84

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee held a meeting at noon in its headquarters at the racecourse. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Army, the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Lebanese Front. The meeting issued no communiques, but a reliable source announced that the committee had dealt with the work schedule and the continuous sniper fire along the front, which was aimed at innocent civilians. The source explained that the committee discussed the subject of the seized trucks and promised to make the necessary arrangements. The source added that an agreement in principle was reached on the exchange of these trucks since these actions would interrupt the delivery of necessary products to the public.

Earlier in the day, the committee received the commander of the French observers who informed it that he had moved his checkpoint in Bank Syria and Lebanon to the port area — to a safer location — after their position was subjected to sniping. The commander denied that his elements had withdrawn from the port area and stressed that the move was a change of position.

VOL on Recent Explosions in Damascus, Military Rift

NC171203 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] Reports received by the Voice of Lebanon from Damascus say that a Palestinian network working for [PLO leader Yasir] 'Arafat has been discovered. Six persons were arrested with two trucks loaded with various types of shells on the Dayr al-'Asha'ir road. They were on their way to Aleppo through Damascus. Permits issued by the [Syrian] General Staff for the Palestinian organizations' members and their supporters were immediately cancelled. These permits allowed them to carry arms and to enter Syria.

The military road linking Damascus to Lebanon has been closed and all permits have been cancelled except for the Syrian Army. All mission orders issued by the General Staff or by the brigade commander after informing this staff must be shown whenever this road is used. This measure comes within the framework of measures aimed at bringing about an end to the spread of all kinds of smuggling by Syrian military personnel from Lebanon to Syria.

Meanwhile, Arab diplomatic sources in Damascus say that three explosions shook the Syrian capital this week as a result of explosive charges that detonated in front of three offices of the defense units which are commanded by Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad. The sources note that these explosions took place at a time when Rif'at al-Asad spent a relatively long time outside Damascus and after President Hafiz al-Asad had decided to end the differences among the military ranks, particularly between the defense units and the Special Forces led by Major General 'Ali Haydar. It has been learned that President al-Asad will decide on whether to integrate the Special Forces and the defense units into the regular Army.

Khaddam Returns Following Talks in Lebanon

JN190638 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus last night following a 1-day visit to fraternal Lebanon, during which he held talks with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and other Lebanese officials. He was seen off from the summer presidential palace in Bikfayya by President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and several Lebanese ministers and officials.

CSSR's Strougal Continues Damascus Visit, Talks

Meets With Al-Asad

JN181230 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd ar-Rauf al-Kasm, Prime Minister; and Dusan Ulcak, CSSR ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, Strougal conveyed the greetings of CSSR President Gustav Husak to President al-Asad and his high appreciation of Syria's policy under Al-Asad and its distinguished struggle against imperialism and Israeli aggression. President al-Asad asked Strougal to convey his greetings and thanks to President Husak and the friendly CSSR people. During the meeting the talks revolved around on the situation in the region and in Europe and the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Exchanges Speeches With Al-Kasm

JN181959 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister, hosted a dinner in honor of CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal this evening.

On this occasion, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm delivered a speech welcoming the CSSR delegation led by Strougal. Al-Kasm said: The old and deep-rooted friendship between the two countries, peoples, parties, and governments is of special importance to us, and has always been expressed in the most eloquent and sincere words which reflect our heartfelt sentiments for our loyal friends. The prime minister stressed that the struggle for the advancement of the Czechoslovak and Syrian Arab people is always linked to their determination to confront the schemes of imperialism, Zionism, and the forces of aggression, led by the United States.

Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm praised the efforts Czechoslovak workers are exerting to complete the joint ventures as scheduled. Al-Kasm also stressed that the CSSR delegation's visit to Syria will directly contribute to promoting cooperation that will have positive results for the two peoples and countries.

Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm spoke about the U.S. and Israeli schemes of aggression in the region, and about the struggle that revolutionary Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces have waged to abort these schemes, particularly the struggle to topple the 17 May agreement and force the NATO forces to leave Lebanon. Dr al-Kasm said: We are preparing ourselves. We are waiting for the new U.S. schemes, and for the hostile trends of Israel, which has been upset by the fact that Lebanon has moved toward national accord both on the popular and official levels.

The prime minister said that Syria, which has waged all of the battles at Lebanon's side, will not be lenient and will not permit conspiracies to create obstacles between Lebanon and its salvation, the entrenchment of its independence and unity, or its march toward prosperity. Dr al-Kasm also stressed that Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad is not seeking war: However, it is ready to effectively repulse aggression. Al-Kasm added that Syria reaffirms that the road to just peace in this region will be achieved only if the UN resolutions are implemented, and that any indifference to the Palestinian issue will be cause for continued tension and struggle.

Concluding, the prime minister said: With this constant policy and with this determination, Syria — people, Ba'th Party, progressive national front, and the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad — will confront the enemies of the Arabs and of the people, and the enemies of world peace. Al-Kasm added: We know your country is also experiencing hostile pressures in Europe aimed against all the socialist countries — pressures such as the deployment of U.S. missiles in West Europe, economic and political conspiracies, and the U.S. trend, which is inclined to use force and to obstruct any constructive and sincere dialogue on disarmament.

Al-Kasm said: We proclaim our support for your country's stand and for the stands of the socialist countries, foremost the USSR. They seek to achieve detente, to struggle for a just and lasting peace, and to give all people a chance to choose their course for construction and to decide their fate in complete freedom.

The CSSR premier delivered a speech in which he expressed his happiness in visiting Damascus for the second time. He stressed that friendship between Syria and the CSSR has been entrenched during the past decades, and is based on the principles of reciprocity, noninterference, and mutual respect. Strougal said: We have met to express our two countries' identical interests in the international domain, and to reaffirm the need for struggle against imperialism, Zionism, neocolonialism, and racism. Strougal added: We have met to consolidate the front of progress, peace, and social justice, and to jointly face the policy of force, threats, confrontation, and direct interference. We have met to promote cooperation between our two countries in the political, economic, and military fields. Strougal said his country wishes to stand at Syria's side in the sphere of economic construction, and wishes to continue its participation in in enhancing Syria's defense capability.

Strougal added: We view a strong Syria as a guarantee for progress amid the dramatic and sensitive developments in the Middle East. He added: Our two countries are exerting their utmost efforts for a sacred objective: attaining a peaceful and

happy future for our two people. Both countries are suffering from war tragedies, and both have been forced to confront miltiary threats from the enemy and to defend their borders. Strougal said: The international situation is now compelling us to be fully alert and to not take lightly the threats being directed at the socialist world and at the countries that have a progressive inclination, among which Syria assumes a leading role.

The CSSR premier spoke about the imperialist quarters' policy aimed at stirring up disputes in all parts of the world. He said: As a result of this policy, Europe has become flooded with U.S. medium-range missiles. Strougal stressed the need for a solid and protective shield against the U.S. sword. He added: On this premise, groups of long-range tactical missiles have been deployed in the CSSR and the GDR. These missiles are at a state of full combat readiness.

Strougal stressed that these military arrangements do not mean a relinquishment of the policy of peaceful coexistence and detente. He said: The socialist countries only hope and wish that the issue of nuclear disarmament will make large strides forward.

Foreign Minister Ash-Shar' Receives CSSR Minister
JN181411 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Damascus, 18 Jun (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' received here today Jindrich Rehorek, CSSR first deputy minister of foreign affairs. Talks during the meeting revolved around the international situation and developments in the region. The two sides also stressed the importance of promoting bilateral relations in all fields.

Khaddam Receives Saudi Mediator Al-Hariri
JN111136 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today received Saudienvoy Rafiq al-Hariri, who then left for Beirut for talks with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and other Lebanese officials.

President al-Asad Receives Bulgarian Award
JN181652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Sofia — The Bulgarian Government has awarded the Georgi Dimitrov Medal for 1984 to President Hafiz al-Asad in appreciation for his great political and scientific successes and for his efforts to achieve peace as well as social and democratic progress in the world.

Yesterday Bulgarian television presented his biography, the stages of his revolutionary struggle, and his gradual rise to military and political posts. The Bulgarian press also talked about the heroic role that President al-Asad is playing in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

TISHRIN: Force Will Be Used in Lebanon if Necessary
JN191010 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] In Damascus, the Syrian paper *TISHRIN* says in today's issue that Syria can resort to force if it becomes necessary to decisively settle Lebanon's issues, but that Syria prefers that the Lebanese cooperate to achieve their national aspirations. Regarding Khaddam's visit to Lebanon yesterday, *TISHRIN* says that this visit is a new indicator of Syria's concern over the situation in Lebanon. The paper accuses Israel of being behind the escalation of tension in Lebanon to prevent Syria from solving the Lebanese crisis in a final and comprehensive manner.

Press Views Arens Statements, Threats
JN171156 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Press review]

[Excerpts] *AL-BA'TH* says: Since Arens' first visit to Washington, the Zionist enemy has been massing its forces along contact lines with the Syrian Forces in Lebanon. What attracts attention is the fact that this coincides with an intensive Israeli campaign against the Karami government and with repeated security disruptions in Beirut. This confirms that the Zionist enemy and the U.S. Administration seek to exploit the Gulf war developments to carry out a military operation in an attempt to bring the state of affairs in Lebanon back to what it was before the Geneva and Lausanne conferences and the Damascus meeting between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Amin al-Jumayyil. There is no doubt that Arens' second visit to Washington will be more dangerous than his first. It is obvious that during the first visit, the situation in Lebanon and the Gulf was discussed, and broad lines were set for the preemptive strikes about which Washington has been speaking in recent days.

From this premise, Arens' second visit to Washington will be more dangerous than the first because it will define the future steps of aggression in the region whether in Lebanon or in the Arab Gulf. Though we do not take lightly the gravity of an eventual military action by the United States, NATO, and Israel in the Arab Gulf we firmly believe — and there are many signs which substantiate this belief — that the forthcoming military action that Israel will undertake will be against Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces. We say this in light of Arens's threats, the Israeli troop reinforcements in Lebanon, and the large scale security deterioration in Lebanon. Yesterday, Arens said that Israel will not even permit the attainment of a balance of forces between itself and Syria. This alone is clear evidence that Israel, in coordination with the United States, is preparing for a military action against Syria. This is one of the preemptive strikes Washington is speaking about.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: Syria, which staunchly and decisively confronted any U.S. or Israeli aggression in the past, is now more prepared to confront any aggression.

In its commentary today, *TISHRIN* says: The repetitive statements by Zionist war minister Arens and Zionist officials

on the increased Syrian military forces demonstrate a dormant aggressive intention, more than they indicate any expression of concern. The Zionist state greatly fears that Syria will soon be able to achieve the requirements for a strategic balance. This balance that has been upset due to Egypt's departure from the battle, Iraq's involvement in a marginal war that has nothing to do with the future of the Arab nation, and the deepening of Arab disunity.

The beginning came with the Syrian steadfastness in Lebanon, when the United States suffered a real political defeat, Israel's invading forces retreated toward the south, and the capitulationist May agreement was foiled. This was a serious indicator for the U.S. Administration and Israel, because it meant that if the Syrian steadfastness were maintained, and if Syria were able to establish a real strategic balance and upset all the calculations, then the U.S. Administration and Israel would lose the initiative. In addition, Syria, as President al-Asad has said, has not reduced its concerted efforts and plans aimed at deterring the Zionist aggression, and stopping its beligerence. Al-Asad has repeatedly stressed that a just peace, which meets the aspirations and hopes of the Arab and Palestinian masses, is impossible to achieve without an Arab deterrent force, which Syria is working for day and night. There can be no peace between the weak and the mighty, or between an usurper and his victim. Peace is achieved through strength. The other peace that is being peddled by the Zionist state and the United States, is capitulation in the As-Sadat model.

TISHRIN adds: Syria's intervention in Lebanon; its confrontation of the U.S. fleets, the Multinational Forces, and the Zionist invasion forces; its success in foiling the May agreement; and bringing Lebanon back to the Arab family, has greatly worried Pentagon circles and its base in Israel. Syria's peaceful intervention in the Arab Gulf to contain the spillovers of Saddam's mad war, and to prevent it from spreading, has also foiled the U.S.-Zionist plan aimed at drowning all the countries in the Gulf in the whirlpool of war which would destroy all the potentials of the region, thus leaving Israel and the United States to face Syria, and to refloat the capitulationist plan that had received a heavy blow in Lebanon.

TISHRIN concludes: It is natural that Arens' statements and implicit and blatant threats should be subject to an indepth study. Israel's concerns and worries may take the form of a mad military adventure, and if it materializes into an aggression on the ground, into real suicide for Israel and its protectors.

TISHRIN Warns Against Upsetting Lebanon's Security

JN181020 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Damascus, 18 Jun (SANA) — In its commentary today, *TISHRIN* wonders how Lebanon as a homeland, and the Lebanese as a people, can benefit from this grave resumption of fighting and how the Lebanese can benefit by remaining preoccupied with handling the security situation and preventing the flare-up of a new civil war rather than paying attention to the continuation of the Israeli occupation. *TISHRIN* emphasizes that those who have resumed firing on Lebanon and the Lebanese people in order to hamper the march of reconciliation, construction, and liberation will not pass unpunished, and that their alliance with the defeated plans will not benefit them. Furthermore, the paper asserts that the warships, aircraft carriers, and cannons which returned to where they came from far away from Lebanon's shore will not return, and the file of unilateral peace, of which the 17 May agreement was its first black page, will not be reopened by any force on earth.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* says: The United States' support for Israel and its strategic alliance with the facist, terrorist, and racist Zionist entity, its expansionist ambitions, and terrorist practices that are unprecedented in history actually amount to international terrorism, which U.S. Secretary of State Shultz is urging his administration to combat through a number of legislative acts.

AL-BA'TH Comments on Israeli Forces in Lebanon

JN180840 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Press review]

[Text] In its "With the Events" column, *AL-BA'TH* says: Who is surrounding who? This question is being repeated by the Zionist media organs before any other world information media. It is true that the Zionist occupation soldiers do not hesitate to commit any crime to achieve Israeli aims, which have been explained very clearly by Yitzhaq Shamir. It is also true that Zionist terrorism is felt everywhere in southern Lebanon. But what is even more true, is that the occupation soldiers are themselves pursued, even if they are proficient in terrorism and crime.

The Zionist newspapers publish daily obituaries and condolences to one or other of the occupation soldiers' families; exactly as the case is in the towns and villages of southern Lebanon, where funerals are held daily for the martyrs killed by the bullets of the criminals. But the situation between the families of southern Lebanon and the Zionist families is very different. Those who have legal rights feel that sacrifice is a national and patriotic duty, and that martyrdom is only made by the blood of the martyrs. Despite the fact that the Zionist soldier enjoys the protection of armored vehicles, personnel carriers, and helicopters, he is inside a circle of death in southern Lebanon. This fact is not hidden by Shamir or Arens, and is not concealed by the photographs of the occupation army's dead and injured, which are displayed daily on the walls of Zionist settlements. Arens claims that invading the south has provided the Galilee settlements with stability and security. He has forgotten that this invasion has not provided security for the 20,000 Zionist soldiers that have fallen prisoner in the death marshes of the south.

AL-BA'TH adds: The heroic operation carried out by a 17-year old Lebanese boy, is not the first and will not be the last such operation. Maybe Arens will remember his real position in Tyre, Sidon, and An-Nabatiyah, as he remembers the shooting down of his forces' helicopter, whose Zionist soldier occupants were not saved by their armor and altitude. Arens must heed the examples. His threats of deeper and more violent strikes will not save his soldiers from their inevitable fate. The Az-Zahrani operation will

be repeated, because the spirit of sacrifice exists, because the Zionist soldiers are invaders, because the Lebanese are determined to liberate their soil, and because Syria is also determined to protect the Lebanese people and guarantee the unity and independence of their homeland.

Shamir and Arens may be thinking of a wider vengeance, by delivering a military strike at Syria. But he who is sunk in the marshes of the south, and he who does not deny that the Lebanese resistance men are lying in wait for him at every road or crossroad, is unable to guarantee the results of a wide military operation, because the past will not be repeated, and because the Zionist's rejection of the conditions for a just and lasting peace in the region will make the marshes of death which surround them, more dangerous and extensive.

AL-BA'TH concludes: The Americans raised their voices in Reagan's face and forced him — confronted by the strong blows — to withdraw from Lebanon. Undoubtedy Shamir will face the voices and screams of the mothers and widows of his soldiers, who are not demanding vengeance, — as Shamir would wish — but demanding that the lives of the remainder of their sons be spared. Murderers are punished by death. The Zionist leadership is leading its soldiers unjustly toward certain death in southern Lebanon.

Arens on National Unity Government, Social Gap

TA190656 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jun 84 p 2

[Text] Tel Aviv — Defence Minister Moshe Arens believes a national unity government is the only answer to the country's economic problems, but thinks such a government could only be formed if the Likud wins the election. He was speaking to a Zionist Organization of America study mission at his office here yesterday.

Arens said the Likud's greatest achievement during its years in power is that the line between the "first Israel" and the "second Israel" has disappeared, with children of immigrants from Iraq, Morocco and Yemen taking their places in the front ranks of the military, industry and other fields.

He cited project renewal and investments in education as some of the deliberate efforts made to close the social gap. But this investment is part of the reason for Israel's current economic difficulties, and now some belt-tightening is necessary, he said.

In answer to questions, the minister said neither Syria nor Israel want war in Lebanon or anywhere else. "We have a problem knowing Syria's long-range policies," he said, "because Syria has a large, well-equipped army and a dictator who is not averse to using violence against his own people, let alone against others. However, we had indications during the incident in Lebanon last Thursday (exchange of artillery fire between Israeli and Syrian troops) that Syria does not want to escalate the situation at this time."

Arens Comments on Military Exports

TA190843 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Jun 84 p 2

[Re'uven Pedatzur report]

[Text] "Israel has in the last few years exported about $1 billion worth of Gabri'el shipborne surface-to-surface missile systems," Defense Minister Moshe Arens disclosed at an election rally for Israeli Aircraft Industries [IAI] workers who are also Likud members held at Bet Sokolov yesterday.

The minister said that the Alignment government had made a mistake when it did not order the IAI to develop another generation of shipborne surface-to-surface missiles after the development of the Gabri'el had been completed, and this had compelled the Israeli Navy to purchase this type of missiles from the United States. Arens also accused the Alignment government of having been unwise and undaring in not having allocated funds to the IAI to develop a new fighter jet after the development of the Kfir had been completed.

The defense minister also disclosed that the U.S. Navy had decided to purchase Israeli-made pilotless drones due to their high quality, and despite the fact that the United States also manufactures this type of aircraft. "The Americans concluded that our pilotless drones are the best of their kind in the world," Arens noted.

Shultz To Meet Arens, Rabin in Washington

TA190841 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Jun 84 p 2

[Uzi Benziman "exclusive" report from the United States]

[Text] Washington — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has in the last few days been particularly sensitive about the Israeli election campaign. He has decided to confer with Defense Minister Arens and MK Yitzhaq Rabin during their stay here.

Arens and Rabin are scheduled to arrive in Washington this weekend to attend a conference on terrorism sponsored by the Yehonatan Institute. Shultz is also scheduled to attend this conference. The meeting with the Israeli defense minister will be described as a discussion of current issues, and the meeting with Rabin will be justified by the fact that he was previously the Israeli ambassador to the United States.

Shamir on Sharon Libel Suit, Israeli POW's

TA181620 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Beersheba, 18 Jun (ITIM) — "The transfer of the secret documents by Minister Sharon to the United States should be investigated; only then will a decision be made on what should be done," Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said today in a brief news conference held at the close of a tour of the "Israel Chemicals" plant in the Negev.

This came in response to a question whether the government would take any measures against Minister Sharon in light of the latest reports alleging that the minister had transferred secret documents to New York [in the libel suit he filed against *TIME* magazine].

The prime minister later referred to the matter of the Israeli prisoners held by the Syrians, and said: "International Red Cross representatives visited the three members of the Israeli liaison office held in captivity by the Syrians, and have told Israel that they look good and have been granted POW status."

Mr Shamir noted that Israel has approximately 300 Syrian prisoners, whereas the Syrians have 6 Israeli prisoners. "We have announced numerous times that Israel is prepared to carry out a prisoner exchange with Syria," the prime minister added.

Mr Shamir was accompanied by his entourage and Commerce and Industry Minister Gid'on Pat.

International Red Cross Visits Prisoners of Syria

TA170954 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Jun 84 p 1

[Sari Robert report from Geneva]

[Text] The spokesman of the International Red Cross in Geneva reported yesterday that last Monday [11 June] the organization's representatives in Syria visited the three Israeli prisoners kidnapped by the Syrians in Lebanon. This was the first visit paid the three by the organization's representatives since 19 April.

Pat on Free Trade Zone Agreement With U.S.

TA190917 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Jun 84 p 5

[Excerpt] According to the agreement with the EEC, there will be duty free entrance of European imports into Israel as of 1989. If the United States does not reach an agreement with Israel by that time, it will lose the Israeli market.

This was stated by Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat in a speech at the conference of leaders of the Zionist Organization of America, which is being held in Jerusalem. Minister Pat emphasized that the free trade zone agreement with the United States could bring into the Israeli economy more income than the U.S. economic aid, and that upon this agreement hangs Israel's economic independence.

Minister Sharon Returns From United States

TA181849 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 18 Jun (ITIM) — Minister Ari'el Sharon returned from New York, where a legal debate was held over his libel suit against *TIME* magazine in connection with the Lebanon war. He returned to Ben-Gurion Airport this afternoon.

Reacting to charges that he had transmitted secret documents to his attorneys, Mr Sharon said he only gave the content of the documents, not the documents themselves, and he did so for the lawyers to be able to do their job, not for any public use. The content of one document has already been published in the Dutch press, and includes nothing; another document concerns a meeting in Bikfayya. As will be recalled, Sharon visited the Al-Jumayyil family in that village after the murder of Bashir al-Jumayyil.

Sharon added that no one would imagine that one's lawyers would not be provided with some tool in order to prepare themselves for the trial.

IDF Kills Three 'Terrorists' in Sidon

TA181930 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1922 GMT 18 Jun 84

["IDF Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] [No date or place-name as received] At approximately 1600 today an IDF force encountered three terrorists preparing a bomb in the southern suburbs of Sidon. The force fired in their direction, killing them. Our forces sustained no casualties.

Two IDF Soldiers Slightly Injured in Lebanon

TA190422 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Two IDF soldiers sustained slight injuries this morning from fire directed at a patrol moving in the An-Nabatiyah area. This was announced by the IDF spokesman.

Lubrani on Syrian Involvement in Lebanon

TA190636 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jun 84 pp 1, 10

[Mideast affairs correspondent David Bernstein report]

[Text] Syria will do all it can not to recommit itself militarily in Beirut, Israel's coordinator in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, said yesterday.

Briefing Arab affairs reporters in Tel Aviv, Lubrani based his assessment on Syria's past bitter experience in the Lebanese quagmire, as well as on the ongoing power struggle in Damascus.

"That is not to say that there are no Syrian agents in West Beirut," Lubrani added, "but that is a far cry from direct military involvement."

Accordingly, Lubrani indicated, direct Syrian military aid to break the political impasse in Beirut is unlikely to be on the agenda during Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halm Khaddam's current talks with Lebanese leaders.

These, he suggested, would centre on ways to effect a durable ceasefire, and possibly on the complicated question of restructuring the Lebanese Army.

On the latter question, Lubrani said that Syria is adamant that the Christian influence over the Armed Forces be diluted, leaving a multi-confessional army with no one group predominant that is ultimately subservient to Syrian interests. Lubrani believes that Syria is in fact open to the idea of indirectly negotiated security arrangements in South Lebanon — but nothing that would prevent the eventual resumption of hostile PLO activity from that quarter.

He noted that Syria has always been careful to severely curtail such activity from areas where it could be held responsible and subject to Israeli retaliation — but South Lebanon, Lubrani suggested, is not such an area.

Lubrani was reluctant to go on record concerning Israel's activities in Lebanon, suggesting that over-exposure would be counterproductive to Israeli interests

He did indicate, however, that Israel is conducting a dialogue in several directions, with some encouraging results.

Jewish Underground Members' Names Released

TA181552 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1331 GMT 18 Jun 84

[IDF correspondent Alan Diskin report from the Jerusalem District Court]

[Text] Literally just moments ago, District Court Judge Yisra'el Weiner decided to release the names of the suspects accused of belonging to the Jewish terrorist organization. He explained that he saw no justification for banning the publication of the defendants' names, and consequently overruled the decree which

forbade their publication. Following are the names of the defendants:

No 1, Menahem Livni, age 26, a resident of Qiryat Arba', charged with murder, among other things; No 2, Yehuda 'Etzyon, age 23, from the settlement of 'Ofra; No 3, Sha'ul Nir, age 30, resident of the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem, charged with murder, among other things; No 4, Yeshu'a Ben-Shushan, age 34, resident of Jerusalem, charged with homicide, among other things; No 5, Yitzhaq Ganey-Ram, age 39, from the Golan Heights settlement of Ramat Magshimim, also charged with murder; No 6, Ben-Tziyon Haniman, a 36-year old settler from Susiyya; No 7, Ya'aqov Haniman, 36 years old, from Susiyya; No 8, Dan Be'eri, age 39, from Jerusalem; No 9, Gil'ad Pel'i; No 10, Ze'ev Friedman, age 30, from Qiryat Arba'; No 11, Hayim Ben-David, age 32, from the Qeshet settlement on the Golan Heights; No 12, 'Uzi (Sharbaf), age 24, from Hebron, charged with murder, among other things; No 13, Baraq Nir, age 25, from Jerusalem, also charged with murder, among other things. All those charged with murder are accused for their roles in the murder at the Hebron Islamic College.

The list also includes No 14, Uri Me'ir, age 36, from Ramat Magshimim; No 15, Bo'az Haniman, from the settlement of Nov on the Golan Heights, age 23; No 16, Avino'am Katri'eli, age 23, from Jerusalem, with whom the courts struck a deal today; No 17, Yosef Tzuriya, 25, from Ramat Hasharon; No 18, Menahem Neuberger, resident of Susiyya; No 19, No'am Yinon, who has already been tried and sentenced to a prison term of 18 months; No 20, Yehuda Kohen, age 25, from Jerusalem, released on bail; No 21, Yosef Edri, age 24, from Qiryat Arba'; No 22, land dealer Moshe Zar, age 47, from Qarne Shomron; No 23, Hagay Segal, age 27, from 'Ofra; No 24, Yitzhaq Nowick, age 36, from 'Ofra; and No 25, Natan Natanson, age 27, from Shilo.

In the marathon court discussion held on the matter today, Attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhaq argued that the publication of the names should be withheld until the assaults in the press against the courts and the defendants had been terminated. Avi-Yitzhaq contended that this case represented the first attempt by the media since the establishment of the state to organize a campaign to force a sought-after decision by launching an open attack on the legal system. The prosecution objected to postponing the publication of the names, and Judge Weiner reacted in court by stating: I can assure you, Mr Avi-Yitzhaq, that I am unaffected by the media.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1405 GMT repeats the above report adding that accused No's. 1 to 11, 13 to 15, 18, 21, and 22 were all charged with murder in connection with the attack on the Islamic college in Hebron. No 16 was charged in connection with the Temple Mount attack.]

Gush Emunim Leader Calls Suspects 'Heroes'

TA190632 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Jun 84 p 1

[Robert Rosenberg report]

[Excerpt] Leading military figures and politicans encouraged settlers "before and after" the attack on the West Bank mayors "to take actions that a democratic state can't do." a central figure in Gush Emunim claimed last night.

Me'ir Indor, whose brother Yosi is still being sought as a suspect in the Jewish underground case, was speaking to reporters after Jerusalem District Court Judge Yisra'el Weiner lifted the ban on publication of the names of the defendants in the case.

Meanwhile, a defence source yesterday confirmed to *THE JERUSALEM POST* that the state and the defence have agreed that the trial will not resume until September, after the summer court recess. All the remaining defendants in the case will plead not guilty at that time.

Weiner's decision whether to remand the 22 suspects until the end of the trial is due in the next few days.

Indor's press conference, given on the sidewalk outside Gush Emunim headquarters in Jerusalem's Ramat Eshkol, could send shockwaves through the settlement movement and political circles.

Indor, a war hero wounded in combat and a settlement movement leader closely affiliated with former chief of staff Refa'el Eytan and Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon, said he was present at meetings with "military and political figures from the highest ranks" at which they encouraged settlers to take "action" against what Indor termed "the PLO in Judaea and Samaria."

Indor warned that he is "not sure there won't be other people in the future" who will take the same actions as those taken by the defendants whom he called "the real leadership of Gush Emunim and the settlement movement." They are "the vanguard, leading the camp," he said. Indor said he was speaking as spokesman for the prisoners action committee.

Among the defendants in the case are Menahem Livni, the head of the Committee for the Renewal of Jewish Settlement in Hebron, dubbed the ringleader of the group; Natan Natanson, described by Indor yesterday as the secretary general of Gush Emunim; Ben-Tziyon Haniman, the man who planned the first Gush Emunim action with Rabbi Moshe Levinger, the sit-in at the Hebron Park Hotel; and Yehuda 'Etzyon, a founder of 'Ofra and former member of the Gush secretariat.

Many of the defendants are "heroes of the people of Israel," said Indor, and "we believe that the people of this country will now have to wonder why it was that people of this sort, heroes such as these men, felt they had to take the action they did."

Indor also said that the Gush Emunim leadership was "setting its focus" on the Temple Mount, but he noted that while the accused are suspected of plotting to blow up the mosque there, they did not make their move, "because they hoped to persuade the country through democratic means," that something should be done "about the disgrace that Jews are not allowed to pray on their holiest site." Indor told *THE POST* that he is "a firm believer in democracy, which is our way of living together, but therefore we must also preserve lives. What these people did was to preserve lives."

Progressive List for Peace Disqualified
TA190425 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] The Central Election Committee has disqualified the Progressive List for Peace from participating in the upcoming Knesset elections. This decision was adopted after midnight following an 8-hour debate, by a majority of 17 votes against 12. The committee chairman, Justice Gavri'el Bach, abstained as did three Alignment representatives. Members of the Progressive List for Peace have said that they will appeal the decision to the High Court of Justice.

The chairman of the Central Election Committee, Justice Gavri'el Bach, said that he had abstained in the vote because the evidence submitted to the committee had not been sufficient. Justice Bach told our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar that had it been clear that the list was striving to undermine Israel's existence, and wanted to inflict a tragedy on its citizens, he would have voted in favor of disqualifying it. For instance, he voted in favor of disqualifying KAKH because he was convinced that its goals and principles might have harmed basic freedoms and democracy.

Arens on Ban of Progressive List for Peace
TA190916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said there is no contradiction whatsoever between his decision not to outlaw the Progressive List for Peace, and the decision of the Central Election Committee yesterday to disqualify the list from participating in the elections. Nevertheless, the defense minister refused to reply to a question by our correspondent Hayim Hecht as to whether he was satisfied with the vote of the Likud representatives in the committee in favor of disqualifying the list.

Minister Arens added that he had recently not allowed 'Ezer Weizman to visit the IDF in Lebanon because he believes that Lebanon should not be turned into a fighting arena in the Knesset elections. The defense minister emphasized that permission would only be given to officials whose duties require such visits.

Alignment on Judaea, Samaria Settlements
TA151439 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Jun p 3

[Razi Gutterman and Barukh Na'e report]

[Text] The Alignment platform for the 11th Knesset includes for the first time a specific commitment stating that Jewish settlements established in the territories occupied during the 6-day war will not be uprooted. The committee which prepared the platform was headed by Attorney Hayim Tzadok. The platform is to be given final approval by the Alignment leadership in a few days.

The clause concerning the settlements states: "In peace negotiations between Israel and Jordan, Israel will insist that in any agreement on sovereignty, Jewish settlements will not be uprooted. Those settlements can remain as they are and their well-being and security will be ensured." On the Lebanese question, the Alignment says in its platform that it will work to settle — within a short fixed time — security arrangements to ensure peace for the settlements in the north and enable the IDF to withdraw from Lebanon.

The Alignment accuses the Likud of being responsible for the development of the Jewish underground in the territories, and says that a government under its leadership will work persistently and firmly to deal with violations of the law. "The Jewish underground was a symptom which developed against the background of a policy of annexation, a mystical nationalist ideology that rejects any solution based on compromise.

Opposition to uprooting Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria was also voiced by MK Yitzhaq Rabin in a speech at the neighborhood center in Qiryat Ono. "Even if a peace agreement is signed with Jordan," Rabin said, "I will oppose the uprooting of settlements. No settlement will be uprooted, not even those etablished by the Likud, even if we were opposed to their establishment. If there is peace, people may be prepared to live under Jordanian sovereignty."

Dozens of Qiryat Ono inhabitants paid 150 shekels to hear an election speech by Rabin.

"Whoever is waiting for a strong government in Beirut and a capable Lebanese Army in order to withdraw from Lebanon will have to wait 20 years," Rabin said in response to a question asked by corresondent Gavri'el Strassmann in connection with the Lebanese issue.

According to Rabin, King Husayn was much more successful in his war against the PLO and in his attempts to exterminate it. "If 'Arafat had one gun and one bullet and met either with Husayn or with any Israeli leader, believe me, he would have pointed the gun first at King Husayn," he said.

RAKAH, Progressive List Rivalry Reported
TA170702 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Jun 84 p 2

[Ya'aqov Friedler report]

[Text] — The RAKAH (Communist) Party over the weekend claimed it is supported by the PLO in the coming elections. But a rival for the Arab vote, the Progressive List for Peace, dissociated itself from the PLO while taking issue with the RAKAH claim of exclusive PLO backing.

RAKAH spokesman 'Uzzi Burstein told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that the official PLO spokesman has called on all Israeli Arabs to vote for RAKAH, as the only party representing the Palestinians in Israel.

But the head of the Progressive list, Muhammad Mi'ari told *THE POST* that the editor of the official PLO weekly

FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH (The Palestinian Revolution) in Nicosia had invited the list's No. 2, Aluf [Major-general] (Res.) Matityahu Peled, to write a regular column in the paper on any subject he chooses.

"We don't consider this PLO support for our list, but it shows that there is no base to RAKAH's claim of the PLO's sole and unqualified support for RAKAH," he said.

Burstein dismissed the column offer as "old hat." It was made personally to Peled "long before the Progressive list had been established," he said.

Progressive spokesman Kamal Bahar told *THE POST* that in fact the letter making the offer was dated May 27, which was after the list had been established.

"RAKAH, a long-established party with four Knesset members, must feel its support among Israel's Arabs is slipping if it claims support from abroad. Our campaign is not based on outside support from the PLO, which represents Palestinians not living in Israel, but on what we want to do for the Arabs of Israel," Bahar said.

Shinuy Outlines Political, Economic Platform
TA181523 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1430 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 18 Jun (ITIM) — MK Prof Amnon Rubinstein, who heads the "Shinuy" Knesset list, said today that his movement is interested in forming a coalition with the Alignment after the elections, adding that the main struggle in the election campaign will be against the Likud.

The speaker, who appeared at a news conference in "Bet Sokolov" in Tel Aviv, added that his movement will make every effort to prevent Agudat Yisra'el from joining the government, so as to prevent religious extortion. "Shinuy", he said, does not rule TAMI out as a party, but will take action to pass a law that will prevent a man convicted of a felony from serving as a minister [allusion to TAMI leader, former Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzera]. At the same time, it will nevertheless work toward changing the administration, even if these conditions cannot be met.

Detailing the main points of his movement's economic platform, Professor Rubinstein said that the next government will have to drastically cut either its own budget or the public's savings, so there is no point in deluding the public by making promises, as the two major blocs have been doing.

On the other hand, he believes it is necessary to conduct a correct economic policy that will be a guarantee against a further erosion of the public's savings. It is necessary to oppose an inflated budget, and it is necessary to stipulate by law that the budget cannot be enlarged without providing an explanation regarding the resources of the money that will be used to cover the expenses. It is also necessary to object to raising the level of income tax and national insurance collections.

The news conference was also attended by the four other candidates on Shinuy's list: MK Mordekhay Virshubsky, Zaydan 'Atshah, Yoram Elster, and Prof Yehoshu'a Porat.

The speakers explained that "Shinuy" has signed an agreement on the surplus votes [i.e., votes in excess of those required for the last mandate] with 'Ezer Weizman's "Yahad" movement, because they believe Weizman has pulled away substantially from the Likud, and they see him as part of their camp. They do not plan to attack the "Yahad" list in the election campaign, but they will explain to their voters that the Weizman list is a new version of the DMC [Democratic Movement for Change that ran for the 9th Knesset, headed by former Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin and Shinuy's Amnon Rubinstein, which split up into two factions, with the Democratic Movement subsequently becoming defunct in the last elections], except that it lacks the ideological infrastructure. "We have limited resources, but we have a record whereas 'Ezer Weizman, despite his access to millions, has no party," MK Virshubsky said.

They also noted that at the time it was impossible to merge with the Citizens Rights Movement, because it joined the Alignment after the last elections, and it is impossible to form such an alliance now on the eve of the elections.

The speakers justified the disqualification of the "KAKH" list because of its racist nature and support for laws that are reminiscent of the Nuremberg laws, but emphasized that there is no room to outlaw it. They believe that responsibility for disqualifying lists should rest with the Supreme Court rather than the Central Elections Committee.

The "Shinuy" representatives emphasized that they are engaged in a bitter argument with the Alignment as well, and believe no single party should be granted a majority, because this jeopardizes democracy as long as there is no constitution in Israel and the election system has not been amended. They added that this time it is important to garner support for Shinuy as a center party, because it would thus be possible to have a coalition that is independent of the religious parties.

Regarding foreign and security matters, the "Shinuy" platform supports an Israeli peace initiative, readiness for a territorial compromise, stopping the settlements, getting out of the Lebanese quagmire quickly, and cementing peace with Egypt.

Jordan River Crossings Open Amid 'Relative Calm'
TA171031 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Jun 84 p 13

[Yosef Tzuri'el report]

[Excerpts] The summer visits have already started but there is something new about them every year. Generally it is to the advantage of the visitors, but sometimes it is to their disadvantage. This can be attributed either to Israel's security considerations, or to the political considerations of the Jordanian authorities regarding the area's Arabs.

This year there is a sort of honeymoon atmosphere between those in charge of the Jordan River bridges. The Amman administration has gone out of its way to facilitate the traffic — both with respect to its speed and its ease — and the Israeli Administration has cooperated, given that there was no reason to act differently toward those who wanted to visit their relatives.

Relative calm — that is what any visitor coming from an Arab country wants. And this is also what the Israeli Administration is aiming at. And this year there really is relative calm. There are no demonstrations. No rioting. No attacks. Almost no stone-throwing....

Sports Council Condemns UK, Calls for Boycott

AB181618 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Excerpts] The deliberations of the Executive Bureau of the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa [CSSA] ended in Ouagadougou this morning. Many motions, resolutions, and recommendations were adopted. We now invite you to listen to the motions, resolutions, and recommendations adopted by the bureau. They are read by the secretary general of the council, Senegal's Amadou Lamine Ba:

[Begin recording] We have drafted three resolutions and one motion. The first resolution concerns the international convention against apartheid in sports.

The bureau has mandated the CSSA secretary general to hold negotiations with the UN Anti-Apartheid Center and the OAU on the possibility of holding an international conference in Africa with the view to drafting a concerted plan of action in the struggle against apartheid because, although Africa is where apartheid is most prevalent, no one ever before has thought of holding such a conference on African soil. But we now think that the time has come when the problem must be examined in Africa itself.

This will enable Africans to examine the problem in Africa, and work out a concerted strategy with their partners in the various anti-apartheid movements worldwide. Such is the resolution adopted by the bureau for a drafted convention.

Also, the bureau has passed a resolution specifically condemning the British rugby team's tour of South Africa. In this connection, the bureau has recalled the pertinent CSSA resolutions on racial discrimination: Considering the beneficial results of the militant action in which struggling Africa and its friends have been engaged for about 20 years against Pretoria and its friends; considering South Africa's underhanded prevarications with a view to ending the isolation into which the action forced it because of racial discrimination; considering the scandalous trip organized just recently — in May and June 1984 — by the British Rugby Union to the stronghold of apartheid despite the protest messages of the international community to British political and sports officials; considering the various subterfuges and other fallacious quibbling used by Great Britain to justify its persistent sporting ties with South Africa, which has been excluded from the Olympic and sporting movement for almost 15 years now; and convinced that this is a deliberate act of provocation aimed at leading Africa into its isolation [as heard], the Executive Bureau strongly condemns all countries that persist in maintaining sporting relations with South Africa; strongly denounces the lack of concern and the indifference with which the British Government reacted to the Rugby Union trip to South Africa while proclaiming its incompetence to intervene and prevent the trip; expresses its indignation in the face of such an attitude which is a blatant violation of both the Gleneagles Declaration to which Great Britain is signatory and the code of conduct which the member countries of the Commonwealth Games Federation have freely adopted; the Executive Bureau calls on the CSSA member countries to comply with the resolutions on apartheid adopted in 1979 by the Ninth General Session in Yaounde by adopting the following measures:

To systematically boycott all sporting events organized throughout the territory of Great Britain; to ban all Britons from all sporting events organized in Africa; to boycott all sporting equipment sponsored by Great Britain; to ban the hiring of British sporting experts in Africa; and to refuse to award to British firms contracts for the construction of sports complexes or to use any building materials produced in Great Britain.

Last, the Executive Bureau draws the attention of the International Olympic Committee and international sports federations to the opportunist change of nationalities in which South African athletes have engaged for some time now with the covert complicity of some Western countries, especially Great Britain, with the view to enabling South Africa to take part in international competitions despite its exclusion from the International Olympic Committee and from most international sporting federations. [end recording]

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B Criticizes Western Summit in London

PM181531 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 8,9 Jun 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Tuning the Strings"]

[Text] Leaders of the seven major capitalist states have met for the 10th time, now in London, after the previous Williamsburg meeting.

The 10th meeting is being held under conditions different from those that existed during the first meeting in Paris in 1975 but almost identical to those that existed during the Williamsburg meeting. The difference lies in the political and economic conditions prevailing in the world, though the aim of the meeting remains one and the same. The economic crisis today is far more acute, and the United States' domination and its inclination toward greater hegemony is much stronger than before.

Meanwhile, it can be observed and pointed out that the West, mainly the United States, has an absolutely free hand. The Third World debts have reached an unprecedented level with no solution for these problems except borrowing more. The economic crisis is continuing and the expected revival of the U.S. economy, that motive force of the Western and world economy, has not materialized. The U.S. deficit is worsening, and U.S. interest rates are constantly rising. Consequently, the conditions of international trade exchange are steadily worsening.

As for the North-South dialogue, we can say it no longer exists. Since the Cancun meeting, the last meeting between the world's rich and poor, it can be said all the doors to dialogue have been closed.

The Williamsburg meeting formally closed these doors and windows. The U.S. President imposed the U.S. view, and it was clearly evident there was no alternative to the avenue of U.S. hegemony, not even for the West European countries.

We can observe this U.S. tendency if we see the great escalation in the arms race, the deterioration of East-West relations, the aggravation of tension in many parts of the world, and the blatant recourse to the use of force. There are many examples of this: the deployment of Pershing missiles in Europe, the Grenada invasion, the occupation of Lebanon, the Iraq-Iran war, and others.

Although it is true there are voices in Europe trying not to be identical with the United States, these voices reflect only a family dispute. The Williamsburg meeting ended with accession to the views of their elder brother.

Consequently, nothing good can be expected from the present meeting. The problem for the West is not to look for a solution to Third World countries' debts but rather to solve its own internal "problems," such as reducing the attraction of capital by the U.S. because of the high rate of interest, the coordination of stands on a number of issues, and the "fair" allocation of roles to safeguard the influence and interests of this or that party.

Undoubtedly world problems are not problems of the monetary system but of the entire world order which is based on the hegemony, inequality, and injustice which are the root of the economic and monetary system. If nothing is changed in this system, no change can be expected in the monetary system except to further ensure the interests of those who benefit from it.

For this and many other reasons it can be said the seven major countries are meeting today in conditions that are far better for them than those during the first meeting in Paris. All the voices have become silent or at least hoarse, and there remains only one single voice.

It is not surprising therefore that the strings of the seven major powers are attuned, particularly since they are meeting in the very place where the great musician Chopin played his splendid pieces for Queen Victoria.

LIBYA

Sikh Rebels Seen Serving Imperialist Plot Against India

LD190916 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0710 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Jun (JANA) — India is now being exposed to the threat of a wide-scale imperialist plot aimed at breaking up its national unity and doing away with the great popular victory achieved by the Indian nation after a bitter struggle to preserve its cohesion and solidarity in the face of imperialism.

The extremist Sikh elements in the Punjab are playing a filthy role in serving the imperialist plot aimed at striking at the Indian nation's unity. They have become a maleable tool in the hands of the imperialists, whose objective they serve by spreading anarchy and trouble throughout India to destabilize conditions and partition the country into statelets.

The Sikh extremists have committed acts of bloody disturbance, anarchy and declared rebellion, manipulated by foreign fingers for the purpose of undermining the national unity in friendly India, a leading member of the nonaligned world and a steadfast opponent of imperialism.

The secessionist acts being committed in India now, through the fanning of tribal feuds and the spirit of secession among some Indian factions, is a plot condemned by the progressive and revolutionary forces. It constitutes one of the secessionist crimes committed against the body of the Indian nation.

The Libyan Arab people stand in the forefront of the world revolutionary forces in condemning this mean plot and firmly denouncing the imperialist fingers that manipulate and instigate these secessionist factionalist feuds in this friendly country.

The imperialist circles in Washington and the reactionary forces in some of the Asian countries in league with it fear India's unity, might, and steadfastness and especially the India's prominent role in the world's Nonaligned Movement.

Thus Washington has a clear interest in turning India into a country governed by anarchy and disturbances and in seeing it divided into statelets.

What has taken place in Punjab and continues to take place provides yet another proof of the imperialist premeditated intention of spreading political destabilization in India and undermining the ambitions and true cohesion of the noble Indian nation.

The criminal groups hostile to the Indian people are helping to implement the imperialist plot against them and their freedom and national unity. The threads of the plot are increasing and getting more entangled with the aim of destroying the achievements made by the Indian people toward preservation of their territorial unity.

All the living forces in the world should consolidate their efforts to face up to and foil this plot. What is taking place now at the hands of the Sikhs and other hostile factions constitutes nothing other than a seccessionist movement which should be aborted with its perpetrators exposed. These perpetrators have been exerting feverish efforts against the ambitions and aspirations of the Indian people.

Over the years, we have drawn attention to the gravity of what was taking place in Pakistan. We repeatedly warned imperialism and colonialism were undermining Pakistan's unity and the will of its people. We warned at the time that that was the start of a wide-scale operation aimed at encouraging the secessionist movement and instigating the secessionists to create disturbances and violence to spread throughout India. The things we warned about are actually taking place, aimed at diverting her attention from the prominent world issues headed by the Palestine question.

There is a movement afoot to deprive India of the prominent position it occupies, exactly as was done before with Pakistan. Thus the gravest danger at present is that of secession, and it is a crime whose planners and perpetrators must be punished.

We stand with the friendly Indian people and support their security and stability. We stand firmly with the Indian nation in its struggle to crush the plotters, the renegades, the traitors, and the agents.

MOROCCO

Turkish Minister Heads Delegation to Economic Meeting

TA181629 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] The Turkish-Moroccan joint economic committee has met in Casablanca, Morocco. State Minister Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemocin, on an official visit to Morocco, is heading the Turkish delegation at the talks. The main issues discussed at the talks were increasing the trade volume between the two countries and joint investments. Two subcommittees on trade and technical issues were established at the talks today. The reports to be prepared by the subcommittees will be reviewed by the joint economic committee on Wednesday and then an economic, industrial, and technical cooperation agreement will be signed between the two countries. Alptemocin met today with Moroccan Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Othmane Demnati. Alptemocin will meet with the ministers of transportation and finance.

SUDAN

President Numayri's Statement to 'UKAZ Cited

JN181532 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Medina, 18 Jun (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has asserted Sudan will not relinquish its adherence to the Book of God and the sunnah of the Prophet, despite the rabid propaganda campaign the Western media have launched against Sudan.

In a statement to the Saudi paper *'UKAZ* published today, the president expressed satisfaction with the application of the Islamic shari'a in the country. Numayri announced that after amending Sudan's Constitution in accordance with the Islamic shari'a, it will be ready to implement after the month of Ramadan. He also announced this Constitution will include the rights of non-Muslim minorities in Sudan.

On the incidents in the South, President Numayri asserted the world churches support rebels, mercenaries, and advocates of separation in southern Sudan. The president said 3 days ago the Sudanese Army repelled two attacks rebels carried out after receiving additional Soviet support, in order to declare a secessionist government in the South. He said the Army killed more than 300 rebels and mercenaries, and captured many modern Soviet arms. Numaryi asserted the Sudanese media plays an important role at this stage because it clarifies the opinions, corrects the course, and gives the people inside and outside all the facts.

Concluding his statement, the president affirmed the strong relations between Saudi Arabia and Sudan. He said Sudan has always found support from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and all the Saudi officials, particularly after applying the Islamic shari'a in the country.

Numayri Sends Message to Somali President

JN181746 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Mogadishu, June 18 (SUNA) — Somalian President Mohamed Siad Barre yesterday received a message from President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri dealing with bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

The message was delivered to the president by the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) central leadership of first secretary Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir 'Umar who is currently here heading Sudan's delegation to the African socialist parties' society general council's 6th session which wound up its works yesterday.

General States Army in 'Full Control' in South

JN181039 Khartoum SUNA in English 0905 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Jun (SUNA) — The People's Armed Forces were in full control of the situation in the southern regions, announced Deputy Commander-in-Chief General 'Abd ar-Rahman Suwar adh-Dhahab yesterday.

The Army is blocking the outlaws' infiltration routes across the Ethiopian borders, he said. He refuted allegations circulated by some foreign papers and radio stations about the situation in the southern part of the country and described such allegations as rootless.

TUNISIA

L'ACTION: PSD Member Meets With Yugoslav Officials

PM181422 Tunis L'ACTION in French 8 Jun 84 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Mr Mahmoud Mestiri Has Talks With Several Yugoslov Officials"]

[Text] Continuing his official visit to Belgrade, Mr Mahmoud Mestiri, member of the Destourian Socialist Party [PSD] Central Committee and secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry, had a series of talks on Wednesday with Mr Vlado Janzic, Mr Jan, and Mr Zagar, respectively executive secretary of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Presidium, member of the Executive Council (government), and executive secretary of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia (SAWPY).

Relations between the PSD, LCY, and SAWPY were examined, and a mutual desire to strengthen them and give them new life emerged from these talks. In addition very detailed views were exchanged on the conference of Mediterranean progressive parties due to be held in Belgrade in July.

With Federal Executive Council member Jan, Mr Mestiri reviewed Tunisian-Yugoslav economic relations. On this subject a decision was taken to devote particular attention to these relations in order to raise them to the level of the excellent political and diplomatic relations between the two countries. Tunisian ambassador to Belgrade Ridha Klibi accompanied Mr Mestiri throughout these talks.

Economic Protocol Signed With Turkey

TA151901 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1800 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] The Turkish-Tunisian joint economic committee meetings have ended in Tunisia. A 2-year joint protocol envisaging the development of bilateral economic relations was also signed by State Minister Ahmet Alptemocin on behalf of Turkey, and by Tunisian National Economy Minister Rachid Sfar on behalf of Tunisia. The protocol envisages increasing the volume of bilateral trade to $100 million and providing for joint customs facilities. The protocol also determines Turkey and Tunisia will establish a joint trading company in a bid to introduce the two countries' products in third countries and increase their exports.

The Turkish delegation headed by Alptemocin, which concluded its contacts in Tunisia, will go to Morocco tomorrow.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Front Secretary General Visits Yugoslavia

For TANJUG English reportage of the visit of Mohamed Abdelaziz and his Polisario Front delegation to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at the invitation of the Yugoslav Socialist Alliance Federal Conference's president, Dr Marijan Rozic, see the Yugoslavia section of the 19 June Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

ETHIOPIA

Eritreans Kill 30 Ethiopian Soldiers, Seize Weapons

GF181730 Doha QNA in Arabic 1250 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 18 Jun (QNA) — Thirty Ethiopian soldiers were killed yesterday in fierce fighting between Ethiopian forces and the Eritrean Liberation Army in (Al-Gash) near the city of Barentu in eastern Eritrea. This was announced by Muhammad Osman Abu Bakr, representative of the Eritrean Liberation Front, who is currently visiting Doha. He said that he received information indicating that the Eritrean revolutionaries have seized large quantities of weapons, ammunition and military equipment.

KENYA

Zimbabwe Foreign Minister Departs for Sweden

EA181558 Nairobi KNA in English 1420 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Summary] Nairobi, Jun 18 — The foreign minister of Zimbabwe, Dr Witness Mangwende, left Nairobi early this morning shortly after one pm for Stockholm, Sweden, after a week-long state visit to Kenya as a guest of the Kenya Government.

CAR

Agreement on Cotton Development Signed With France

AB182142 Paris AFP in French 1030 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Bangui, 18 Jun (AFP) — A financial agreement totaling 335 million CFA francs was signed between France and CAR to finance a rural development project this year in the cotton belt region, it was learned in Bangui on Monday.

The agreement was signed by Michel Cuignet, head of the French mission for cooperation, and Guy Darlan, the CAR's high commissioner for planning and financial and economic cooperation, it was stated.

This financial aid is granted within the framework of the second aid and cooperation agreement and falls within the "production training and applied research" aspect of the agreement. The project, which is managed by SOCADA [Central African Development Company], encompasses the prefectures of Kemo-Gribingui, Gribingui-Economique, Ouham, Pende, Ouaka, and a part of Basse-Kotto.

Also participating in this project for 12 billion CFA francs are the World Bank, the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation, the European Development Fund, the Arab Development Bank, the Bank of Central African States and the Aid and Cooperation Fund. On the CAR side, farmers in the cotton-growing areas, SOCADA, and the government will contribute 6 billion CFA francs.

CHAD

IMF Report Indicates 'Remarkable' Economic Growth

AB182036 Paris AFP in French 1338 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 18 Jun (AFP) — In 1983, Chad has achieved "remarkable progress in all respects" in the field of economic growth, according to an IMF report. In this regard, the country will in 1984 become the second biggest African cotton producer after Egypt. As a matter of fact, Chad's cotton production will reach 160,000 tons, compared to 70,000 and 100,000 tons in the previous 2 years.

Thanks to this growth, which experts find remarkable, Chad will earn 5 billion CFA francs (Fr 100 million) in additional budgetary receipts on the export of cotton alone, its major cash crop, compared to 2.5 billion in 1983.

Progress has also been made in the production of other commodities: Food production is expected to reach more than 450,000 tons in 1984 (compared to 410,000 tons in 1983); sugar production will reach its break-even point (25,000 tons) for the first time in several years while tobacco production will yield the state 1.5 billion CFA francs in additional receipts in 1984.

However, although the agricultural sector contributes 55 percent — according to experts — of the GNP, it can only cover 80 percent of domestic needs. The shortfall in food production is estimated at 138,000 tons, although a large part of it is offset by bilateral and multilateral humanitarian food aid.

BENIN

Niger President Arrives on 2-Day Friendly Visit

AB182215 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Excerpts] General Seyni Kountche, the Niger head of state, since this afternoon has been the guest of the Beninese people within the framework of a 2-day friendly and working visit.

At the Cotonou-Kadjehoun airport, where he arrived this afternoon, the Niger head of state answered questions from reporters of the national press. First of all he outlined the purpose of his visit to the People's Republic of Benin:

[Begin recording] Between Niger and Benin there is always friendship, brotherhood and solidarity, and all these supported by a policy of consultations. Good neighborliness exists between Niger and Benin because we meet quite often. I would like to remind you of the role that the port of Cotonou plays in Niger's economy, as well as our common organization, the Benin-Niger Joint Railroad Transportation Organization [OCBN]. Coupled with this is common membership of Benin and Niger in a certain number of subregional, regional, and continental organizations. I can tell you that despite the brevity of my visit, apart from this fraternal meeting with President Kerekou this is an opportunity to discuss not only all issues that interest our (?bilateral) cooperation, but also certain problems of interest to the subregion, the region, and the continent, as well as problems at the national level. [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Sends Message to Congo's Sassou-Nguesso

AB181335 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, has flown to Brazzaville to deliver a message from the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, to the Congolese leader, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso. Details of the message were not immediately known, but it is believed to center on developments in Africa and relations between the two countries. Last year, the PNDC chairman received a special message from President Sassou-Nguesso. The secretary is being accompanied by Mr J.L.M. Amisah, director of Africa and the OAU at the Foreign Ministry.

LIBERIA

'Veteran' Journalist Arrested by Security Forces

AB191055 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] A veteran Liberian journalist, Rufus M. Darpoh, has been arrested in Liberia as the person transmitting news clandestinely against the interest of the government. A release from the office of the joint security in Monrovia said yesterday that Mr Darpoh is reported to have admitted being the author of some of the articles. The release said Mr Darpoh is currently assisting the joint security in their investigation. The chairman of the joint security, Colonel Sam Massakoye, said for the past few months vile, derogatory, misleading, and unfounded articles have appeared in foreign publications against the interest of the people and Government of Liberia. Earlier yesterday, the *FOOTPRINTS* newspaper disclosed that [word indistinct] Mr Darpoh once served as editor of the *NEW LIBERIA* and the defunct *DAILY OBSERVER*.

MALI

President Receives Upper Voltan Interior Minister

AB181718 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the Republic, at 1430 today received in audience Upper Voltan Interior Minister Nongma Ernest Ouedraogo. Relations of neighborliness between the two countries were at the center of the talks, which were held in the presence of Interior Minister Lieutenant Colonel Abderhamane Maiga, and Mohamed Alhousseyni Toure, permanent secretary at the Presidency. After the audience, the Upper Voltan interior minister talked to our reporter (Tiena Mathieu Kone).

[Begin recording] [Ouedraogo] In fact, I was received by the president of the Republic just a few minutes after my arrival. I brought a message from Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, and Upper Voltan head of state, to his brother and friend President Moussa Traore. Well, I delivered the message and I apologize because I cannot disclose its contents. Anyway I was well received and I take this opportunity to thank President Traore for the diligence with which he received me.

[Kone] Mr Minister, we know that dynamic neighborly cooperation has existed between Mali and Upper Volta; in this connection have there been any developments since the interministerial meeting in Mopti?

[Ouedraogo] Yes, there have been permanent developments. Since the Mopti meeting, there were other meetings; that is, the recent meeting of the joint commission in Ouagadougou, and before and after that joint commission meeting there were exchanges and missions between the two countries.

[Kone] Four August 1983 to 18 June 1984: How is the Upper Voltan revolution doing?

[Ouedraogo] The Upper Voltan revolution is doing well, the Upper Voltan revolution is better every day than the day before. [end recording]

NIGERIA

New Diplomatic Appointments Announced

AB181643 Lagos NAN in English 1600 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Lagos, June 18 (NAN) — The Federal Military Government today in Lagos announced the appointments of heads of 18 Nigerian diplomatic missions abroad, according to a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs. In the statement released in Lagos, four of the new diplomats are posted to African countries, five to the Americas, five to Asia and the Pacific, and four to Europe.

The new envoys are Mr. U.B. Wali (Egypt), Mr. K. Ahmed (Niger), Mr. M.M. Yahya (Kenya), Mr. S.G. Yough (Guinea), Ambassador I.E. Olisemeka (U.S.), Ambassador A.I. Atta (Canada) and Mr. J.A. Fakayode (Argentina).

The list also includes Mr. M.B. Ekpang (Venezuela), Mr. P.O. Osuman (Cuba), Ambassador G.C.B. Okany (Australia), Ambassador A. Adekuoye (China), Ambassador Y.W. Sada (Japan) and Ambassador B.G. Kingibe (Pakistan).

Others are Dr. Beita Yusuf (the Philippines), Ambassador B.O. Tonwe (Switzerland), Ambassador E.M. Ihama (Spain), Mr. Abba Soru (Federal Republic of Germany) and Miss J.A. Alakija (Sweden).

The statement said that the new envoys would depart soon to assume duty in their respective missions.

Former State Governor Sentenced for Corruption

AB181635 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Excerpt] The former governor of Bendel State, Ambrose Olowonsho Ali, was today sentenced to a total of 56 years' imprisonment by the Ibadan Zone of the Special Military Tribunal on the Recovery of Public Property. Prof Ali was found guilty on a three-count charge of receiving and accepting over 900,000 naira from one Mrs Obatunde Adeyemi of Hiswani Construction Company some time in 1982. Prof Ali will however spend only 22 calendar years in prison as sentences will run concurrently.

ANGOLA

Jorge Leaves for Nordic Conference in Sweden

MB181230 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Paulo Teixeira Jorge, Angolan minister of external affairs, left for Stockholm yesterday to attend a conference organized by the Nordic countries on the situation in southern Africa. Before his departure, Paulo Jorge spoke to Angolan radio about the commendable initiative and the objectives of the conference organized by the Nordic countries:

[Begin recording] This visit to Sweden is in response to the initiative of the Nordic countries to analyze jointly with the foreign ministers of the Frontline States the current situation in southern Africa and to define the solidarity to be shown and help to be given to SWAPO and the ANC. Naturally, the participation of the Nordic countries in the southern African Development Coordination Conference will also be discussed.

We think that [words indistinct] to the liberation movements, because they have always been helped in the humanitarian sense, but this aid has always had a political connotation. Due to the current evolution of the situation and concern demonstrated by these countries over the apartheid regime, I believe that this initiative will also mean a reassertion of the political point of view against the apartheid regime. That point of view has been expressed many times within the framework of international relations. I believe the Nordic countries are holding this meeting to demonstrate solidarity and to better understand events in this region. [end recording]

Well-informed sources have said that the Swedish Government, which is hosting the conference, is going to present a draft program for isolating the South African regime because of its policy of racial discrimination. The Swedish proposal will include, among other measures, a reduction in investments by enterprises of the Nordic countries in South Africa, the interruption of sports exchanges with South Africa, and an increase in support for the political organizations that are fighting against the apartheid regime in Pretoria.

Van Dunem, Kampuchean Minister Sign Accord

MB190910 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] An interparty accord was signed in Luanda yesterday, between the MPLA-Labor Party and the Kampuchea People's Revolutionary Party. Afonso van Dunem signed for Angola and Hun Sen, Kampuchean minister of foreign affairs signed for Kampuchea. We recall that yesterday the Kampuchean leader returned to Phnom Penh after a 4-day visit to our country.

Dos Santos Makes Speech in Namibe Province

MB180731 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 16 Jun 84

[Speech by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the end of his tour of the southern provinces at a mass rally in Namibe on 15 June — recorded]

[Text] From Cabinda to Cunene, only one... [crowd: "people"]. From Cabinda to Cunene, only one... [crowd: "people"]. Only one... [crowd: "nation"]. The struggle... [crowd: "continues"]. For people's... [crowd: "power"]. Victory... [crowd: "is certain"]. Thank you very much. [applause]

Comrade coordinator of the party provincial committee in Namibe and provincial commissioner, comrade provincial officials, Angolan Women's Organization [OMA] comrades, Angolan party youth comrades, Young Pioneer comrades, comrade fighters of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of the Angola [FAPLA] and the People's Defense Organization, comrade members of the National Union of Angolan Workers, esteemed internationalist comrades, dear comrades and compatriots:

For several days we have been on a working visit to Namibe Province. Before coming here, we visited Huila Province and also toured some regions of Cunene Province. We have been warmly welcomed from our arrival in Huila to our visit here in Namibe.

In Namibe, in particular, we were received at the airport with dances and songs performed and sung by elderly people, the OMA, and pioneer comrades. During our stay, we have had very fruitful discussions. We found solutions to a number of problems and are satisfied with this. For everything that you have done to make our stay pleasant and to ensure the success of our mission, I say, on behalf of the delegation accompanying me and on my own behalf, thank you very much. [applause]

In our discussions, as I have just stated, we analyzed problems relating to production and defense. As you know, comrades, 1984 is the year of defense and production. Namibe Province is important to all the country's provinces. In this province, we have an infrastructure, facilities, and resources that permit us to solve the problem of fish production, including fresh, refrigerated, and dried fish. In this province, we have installed capabilities to solve the salt problem. Accordingly, it is the duty of the comrades of this province to perform a difficult task. This task is to produce fish and enough salt to feed the majority of Angola's people. This task has been implemented in part due to the sacrifice of the workers and the dedication of officials and leaders.

There are, however, still many difficulties. We have toured some salt-producing units. We have visited several factories where fish is canned, and we have also visited some units where fish is salted and dried. We have established direct contact with enterprise officials and workers. We have seen that there are problems. We have analyzed the fastest way to find solutions to these problems. We learned we must solve the problem of providing a regular food supply to those working on the sea. We must solve the problem of the (? lack) of equipment for protecting workers who operate in the cold areas of the fish refrigerating enterprises. They

informed us that many of our fishing boats are not functioning because they have broken down. They lack spare parts, motors, and other things. They also informed us that some production units are producing very little. For example, the salt enterprise, which is a private concern, is producing more than the state enterprises. State enterprises have more workers and sometimes greater resources than private enterprises. However, the profitability, productivity, and the quantity of products that each worker produces is lower than those of the private enterprises.

We are, therefore, concerned about this situation. As I have said a short while ago, Namibe Province has the great responsibility to produce fish and salt to feed the majority of people in our country. Notwithstanding these problems, we have also observed that people are willing to work. This is very good. We have observed this among the workers as well as among provincial officials and leaders.

The comrades in this province are asking for greater attention and support from the central structures. We are thinking of working very closely with the officials of this province so as to find the best ways of slowly but surely solving their problems. We are certain that these problems will be solved. We must, however, know that generally some of them are very difficult and will not be solved overnight. What I would like to ask you comrades — some of you are workers, others are peasants, others are administrative workers, and others still are pupils, students, pioneers, and combatants — is to realize that, if we want to make even more progress, the comrades of the party provincial committee and the comrades of the provincial commission should slowly solve the problems by implementing the guidelines and the tasks assigned by higher authorities.

We must not expect anybody to solve our problems for us. We must solve our own problems. In some cases, we can count on foreign assistance, but this will only be in a small number of cases. Essentially, most of the work has to be done by us Angolans. We must understand this. In some areas of our country, there are greater difficulties than here. All this notwithstanding, we observe that in Namibe Province there is a greater tranquillity. There are no major military problems. Essential goods are available, and there is no great concern about the food supply, as is the case in other provinces.

Therefore, people here can work a bit more than in other provinces. At our meetings we also observed that, aside from the resources in the sea like fish, salt, and shellfish, the Province of Namibe also has building materials. Here we have ornamental stones. We have a great variety of marble. It also apprears that in Huila we have a great variety of granite. These are stones which are used in construction once they are cut.

In this respect, we observed that a lot of activities have come to a standstill and that available resources are underutilized. This means that the provincial comrades as well as the comrades of the central structures will have to make greater efforts to enable us to exploit this wealth. We need money. We need foreign currency. The resources available in this province are much sought after abroad. Therefore, if we can double the production of ornamental stones, we shall partly solve not only our problems in construction materials, but we shall also sell part of the construction materials and earn foreign currency which will allow us to solve problems in other sectors of our province.

I take advantage of my visit here to appeal to the workers of the provinces of Namibe and Huila to implement the guidelines which will be laid down shortly by the comrades of the provincial commissions and the enterprise managers. We need to promote our production. In 1977, in the first congress of the MPLA, a great decision was taken. It was that we should take advantage of all that the Portuguese colonialists abandoned and resume the operation of everything that was sabotaged. In 1982 we visited Namibe. Many enterprises that had been abandoned and had been paralyzed were reactivated. In some cases our workers, without prior knowledge of technical skills, were able to put complicated machines back into operation. We had to make efforts to solve these problems with a great deal of energy and determination.

We have not yet solved all the problems. The truth is that many of the enterprises are not yet operating. We have not yet made use of everything available. We decided to build new things, only new things. We must first make the best use of all the things we have that we have not yet used. It appears to me that we must first make the best use of what we have which we might not have used. In other words, we must resume the full operation of machines so as to achieve the greatest profit possible. Therefore, we must make more efforts to implement this guideline of our congress of 1977.

However, as I said a short while ago, we do not deal only with production problems. There are other sectors which are also facing difficulties. There are health problems. There are inflationary problems. There are transport problems. There are organizational problems. There are problems of administration. Therefore, during the few days that we stayed here, we did a great deal of work. I hope that the members of the party, since the party is the vanguard, will receive information from the provincial committee on the work that we have organized and will perfectly understand the need to apply the measures that we have adopted. We hope that the youth committees know about the prescribed measures. The comrades of the National Union of Angolan Workers, after learning the measures, should promote their application.

There is also a need to promote in-depth political explanations so that people can understand what the party leadership in this province is thinking and what the provincial commission is thinking so that we can all work closely to solve the most urgent problems. I do not know whether the party comrades will have enough force to do this work. I do not know whether the party youth comrades will have enough force to do this work, but this responsibility is their first and foremost duty. They are the vanguard. They must properly explain the party guidelines to workers and the need to apply them in order to solve our problems.

I said a short while ago that Namibe Province is relatively calmer than Huila Province, which we visited. There our concern, besides the economic problems, is also a military one. The regional military council operates in Namibe, Huila, and Cunene Provinces coordinating all the political, military, economic, and

social activity. This body was created to allow us to concentrate our efforts on the most urgent issues. Comrades, as you know, our country has been attacked since 1975 by South Africa. Units of the regular South African Army have penetrated several times into our territory since 1975. They have massacred people, destroyed their belongings, attacked our Armed Forces, sabotaged several economic enterprises, and occupied an important part of our Cunene Province. Thousands of our compatriots were left homeless, without anything, and fled to the bush. Since 1981 some of them have been in the bush or have retreated to safer areas in Huila Province.

But we are not concerned only with direct attacks by the South African Army. South Africa also trains, organizes, and sends to Angola Angolan puppets fighting for UNITA who commit the same atrocities as the South African racists. They destabilize our life because they do not want us to quickly solve our economic and social problems, to solve our people's problems in peace. Thus, the leadership of our party has always been very concerned with this current situation. We have acquired arms and enlisted young men to defend our peace.

This is a great sacrifice made by the whole nation. It is a necessary one because we have to defend our country. All of you comrades followed the extremely grave situation that we went through in December last year and January. Our combatants who were in the most advanced front in Cunene Province were besieged for about a month by the forces of the racist South African Army.

South Africa bombed with its aircraft, shelled with heavy artillery, and advanced with its infantry. Four of our brigades were encircled. More than 7,000 of our compatriots were encircled by South Africa and fought with great courage, with great determination, to prevent the South African racists from advancing to the north and committing crimes, creating more sorrow, more grief, more mourning for our people in our motherland. These brave comrades resisted heroically and defeated the enemy. In Cahama, Mulondo and Caiundo, the South Africans suffered defeats.

Our comrades performed heroic deeds and the leadership of our party approved several support motions, the youth of the party awarded vanguard flags to the combatants, and we witnessed all our people demonstrating love for the combatants in the war zone. We went to Cahama to transmit this great sentiment of all our people from Cabinda to Cunene, the great admiration, the great respect and the tribute for those young men who left everything they possessed — their families, their belongings — and came to defend our life. And those comrades are in high spirits. They are ready to make more sacrifices to prevent the enemies of our people from creating more difficulties.

After the defeats suffered by the enemy, the South Africans asked to discuss peace with us and we agreed to start discussing and trying to find solutions to establish peace. I must say to you, comrades, that it has not been easy to accomplish this task. Since February, comrades, you have heard that various governmental delegations have been going abroad to talk with the South Africans. The objective is to find the means to establish peace in our country. We have not yet solved all the problems because despite everything and although the enemy acknowledges that he can not defeat us, he is not totally convinced that he is unable to destroy the Angolan revolution. Thus, they are still maneuvering. How do they act?

During the discussion South Africa agreed to withdraw from our territory. In fact, they started the withdrawal of their armed forces on 1 May, and that withdrawal should have ended on 31 May, but in fact it has not ended. They went south of Ngiva. This means that they were 200 km from the border. They (?went further down) and are now 40 km from the border. Some military units have withdrawn, but there are still at least one or two South African Army battallons south of this place. The South Africans have not stopped arming UNITA. They continue to give them weapons. They continue to train bandits and to send them to Moxico and Cuando Cubango Provinces, traveling along the border with Zambia, to reach the diamond producing Luanda Province, in order to stop the exploitation of diamonds. This means that we only started the discussion of the path that will lead us to peace, but we have not reached peace yet, and hence we must remain vigilant. We must not leave our weapons. We have to use our weapons to defend our country and revolution.

In another maneuver, the South Africans have not firmly pledged to grant independence to the Namibian people. Today, they should withdraw from Angola, and then implement the UN Security Council Resolution 435 that will lead Namibia to independence. Until now the South Africans have had some discussions with SWAPO, the genuine representative of the Namibian people, but they have still not signed a peace accord on Namibia. To gain Namibia's independence, SWAPO and South Africa should first also sign a peace accord. We have done diplomatic work with some African countries, with some European countries, and with all the international comunity so that they will continue to pressure South Africa to solve the Namibia problem, because for us the beginning of permanent peace can only start when the South Africans withdraw completely from Angola and sign a peace accord with SWAPO to implement Resolution 435 that will lead Namibia to independence. Before this happens, we must stay alert, because at any moment the South Africans can again attack our armed forces, our people, and our economic installations.

Hence, we must continue to be vigilant. We should continue to organize our forces, regular and paramilitary forces, with the objective of defending our revolution. We should be well organized and armed, not only with firearms but with political and ideological weapons, to have an idea of what we want for our people and for our country, so that we will understand who are our enemies: those who cooperate and collaborate with South Africa to prevent Angola from becoming really independent.

In order to avoid the implementation of Resolution 435 that will lead Namibia to independence, South Africa has used excuses and pretexts, because the whole world condemns the illegal presence of South Africa in Namibia. All the world demands their withdrawal from Namibia and the transferring of power to the Namibian people. One excuse South Africa uses is the presence of Cuban internationalists in the People's Republic of Angola. They say that they cannot start the implementation of Resolution 435 without the withdrawal first of the Cuban inter-

nationalist from Angola. It is clear that this is not excuse enough, so they present some other excuse. Why? Because they want to continue supplying UNITA with weapons, to continue training the UNITA bandits. Beause they think that UNITA is going to destroy the Angolan revolution, is going to destroy our government, and will install here a government friendly to South Africa. This is the reason for the excuses. The use of this excuse serves only to delay Namibia's independence and to try to strengthen UNITA to destroy our revolution.

We have no other alternative but to annihilate UNITA and this is a task involving all honest Angolans and all true Angolan patriots. In 1975 as we all know, and as we should not and must not forget, our populations suffered through the South African presence. They came close to Luanda. They occupied Cunene. They occupied Benguela. They occupied Huambo, attacked Luanda, and brought our people suffering. It is UNITA that has brought this suffering. UNITA was supported before by the settlers. We should not forget the mass meetings held by UNITA, which was friendly to the settlers. We do not want to be colonized again. If we lose our revolution, the future generations will condemn us. We have the duty to defend this revolution. [applause] [slogans and applause]

Well, comrades, we have spoken for quite a long time. We are going to leave you. We are glad because we are sure that we are going to defend our revolution. Our people are strongly determined — as they were in 1975 when we defeated UNITA and FNLA puppets and the South Africans — to prevent the South Africans and the puppets from succeeding this time. The revolution will triumph. Long live the MPLA-Labor party. [crowd: "long live"] Long live the MPLA-Labor Party. [crowd: "long live"] Long live the People's Republic of Angola. [crowd: "long live"] Long live the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola. [crowd: "long live"] Long live FAPLA. [crowd: "long live"] Long live FAPLA. [crowd: "long live"] Long live the People's Defense Organization. [crowd: "long live"]. The struggle... [crowd: "continues"]. For people's... [crowd: "power"]. And victory... [crowd: "is certain"]. [applause]

ANGOP Refutes 'Inflated' UNITA Communiques

MB160740 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Jun 84

[Text] ANGOP issued a commentary yesterday on the instability of the UNITA bandits, saying that the successes of the Angolan armed forces have led, day after day, to growing despair among the puppets. ANGOP said that this despair has reached the point where the counterrevolutionary groups are issuing war communiques on victories that do not fool anyone, not even the least attentive observer.

It is curious but not astonishing, the ANGOP commentary continued, to note that such communiques always find their needed support in the Western sensationalist press where they are first reported. However, the facts on the battlefield speak for themselves. They demonstrate the defeat suffered by the puppets, who are trying to justify their inflated communiques with less grandiose but highly terroristic acts, such as attacks on defenseless civilians.

ANGOP pointed out that the Western press is aware of this reality, but for obvious reasons it has decided to opt for sensationalism by defending a lost cause and giving undue coverage to the puppets in their criminal acts.

LESOTHO

RSA Mines Reportedly Coercing Basothos To Join BDA

MB151805 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Unconfirmed reports from South Africa reveal that South African mining authorities have launched a campaign to coerce Basotho mine workers to join the newly formed Basotho Democratic Alliance [BDA] led by Mr C.D. Molapo. The reports further indicate that among others, managements of (Norwest), Vaal Reefs No 4, and Tweefontein No 2 mines have threatened that mine workers should return with BDA membership cards if they want to secure their jobs after holidays of any length in Lesotho.

Commenting on the reports, a Lesotho Government spokesman said that if these reports are true, it is a demonstration of gross interference in the internal politics of another country, and a desperate effort to influence the flow of events in accordance with the wishes of another power. The spokesman also said that the Basotho will never (?back away) by succumbing to the interests of another power, but will exercise their right to join a party of their choice and vote for whomsoever they wish without dread. It is worth noting, the spokesman added, that the Basotho National Party [BNP] has made no effort to cause Basotho either to join the party or vote for it in the forthcoming general elections. We know that the record of the BNP speaks for itself, the spokesman concluded.

MAURITIUS

PRC Diplomat Still Missing; Search Continues

AB151748 Paris AFP in French 1321 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Port Louis, 15 Jun (AFP) — Chinese diplomat who disappeared Wednesday night in Mauritius was still missing on Friday, despite the search by the Mauritian police, who have also kept open watch on the island's airport and harbor. According to the Chinese Embassy in Port Louis, Mr Sun Li Sheng, 45, did not take along his passport, which was delivered to the police by Chinese diplomats.

According to certain sources, the third secretary at the Chinese Embassy was still in the country and could, in the forthcoming days, ask for political asylum and place himself under the protection of the Mauritian Government, as four Ethiopian football players did last year. The football players were handed over to the United Nations and went to Australia a month ago. By Friday morning, no foreign embassy in Mauritius had been asked for political asylum.

MOZAMBIQUE

Foreign Minister Leaves for Meeting in Sweden

MB170649 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] Mozambique's Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano left Maputo yesterday for Stockholm, Sweden, where he will attend a joint meeting between the foreign ministers of the Frontline States and the foreign ministers of the Nordic countries on southern Africa. Speaking to the news media, Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano said that there are reports that the Swedish Government will propose to the meeting a program for isolating the South African Government because of its policy of apartheid.

30 'Armed Bandits' Released in Inhambane

MB171138 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] A total of 30 armed bandits, some of whom had surrendered to the Mozambique Armed Forces with their weapons in Vilanculos district in Inhambane, have been released integrated into production centers. The release of these bandits took place at a mass rally last Monday in Vilanculos district under the chairmanship of Inhambane provincial military commander Major General Comingos Fondo. At the rally, the armed bandits described publicly their criminal acts against the people of this district. Maj Gen Domingos Fondo explained the history of the armed bandits and stressed that those who surrender with their arms will also be released.

Tete Acting Governor Says Patrols To Begin

MB151458 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Francisco Joao Pateguana, acting governor of Tete Province, has called on the provincial Operative Command to undertake concrete tasks to eliminate antisocial activities, robberies, and armed and unarmed banditry. The call was made at a recent meetinng with members of the provincial Operative Command, which assessed the activities that have been undertaken in the context of Operation Production. At the meeting, Francisco Joao Pateguana announced that patrols of Tete town would begin shortly, and would involve defense and security forces. The official called on Tete town residents to denounce those who break the law and engage in black marketing.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Abducts Three Civilians 15 June

MB191319 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1314 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Windhoek, June 19, SAPA — Three civilians were abducted by SWAPO in northern SWA/Namibia last Friday. According to a senior SWA Territory Force spokesman, Mr Ananias Anguuo, 35, Miss Nanoingola Shianangua, 30, and a 13-year-old boy, Mandune Arugulo, were abducted by SWAPO at about 8 pm at Oshitei in the Ongandjera area in northern SWA/Namibia. He said security forces were investigating but no further details were immediately available.

The abductions came as the activities of the Joint Monitoring Commission between South Africa and Angola near completion on the withdrawal of South African troops from southern Angola.

The JMC seeks to prevent SWAPO insurgents infiltrating the territory from bases in Angola, as well as preventing the Angolan resistance movement, UNITA, from launching attacks on establishments in Angola.

Recently the Angolan Government protested that South Africa was not complying with the agreement to completely withdraw their troops, charging that South Africa was, instead reoccupying more areas in Angola. South Africa, in turn, has alleged that SWAPO insurgents are trying to infiltrate areas vacated by them.

Mudge Says Parties Need Common Loyalty

MB151317 Johannesburg International in English 1100 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] The leader of the Republican Party in South-West Africa, Namibia, Mr Dirk Mudge, says it will be senseless to apply UN Resolution 435 in the territory if all the political parties do not have a common foundation and loyalty. Mr Mudge has told a meeting in Windhoek that unless there is reconciliation among the parties of South-West Africa/Namibia, not even the assurance of elections will bring peace after independence. He said SWAPO must be fought until it ceases its hostilities. He also told the meeting that the Multiparty Conference is still waiting for SWAPO so that discussions on peace and independence can be continued.

SOUTH AFRICA

Slabbert Appoints PFP Committee on Black Problems

MB170654 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] The leader of the opposition, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, says he welcomes what he terms the government's small, slow steps towards a more rational reformist approach to South Africa's political problems. In a statement released in Cape Town, he added, however, that he was concerned that no adequate attention was being given to the growing political, social, and economic problems of blacks in South Africa and the national states. For this reason, he had appointed a six-member committee of Progressive Federal Party [PFP] Members of Parliament, under the chairmanship of Mr (Graham MacIntosh), to undertake an intensive study of these problems. The issues to which the committee would pay particular attention were the problems and development needs of those areas designated for resettlement and the question of black urbanization with its related problems of employment, transport, and health services.

Dr Slabbert said that his party committee would conduct the investigation by establishing liaison groups between PFP local organizations and black communities to discuss the problems of these communities. The committee hoped to have its report and recommendations completed by August next year.

Former Ciskei Security Chief Sentenced

MB151446 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Ciskei's former security chief has been sentenced 12 years in jail. Charles Sebe was convicted and sentenced for planning to endanger state authority. On a crackly line from Bisho, Frans Kruger:

[Kruger] I take it [as heard] from those dramatic moments when Charles Sebe climbed into a police car this afternoon on his way to begin a 12-year jail sentence. He seemed as confident as ever, pausing to pose for photographers on his way from the court. Earlier, Judge (Pickard) had found him guilty of inciting other security force officers to release a detained deputy, Brigadier Harvey Tamsanqa, by force. Such a plan would have led to an armed confrontation between his supporters and the Ciskei police and bloodshed, the judge said. If Sebe had decided to go ahead, nobody could have stood in his way. Fortunately, the former police chief had decided to follow good advice and refrained from executing the plan. This was to his credit, the judge found. He said he would impose the most lenient sentence possible. Permission to appeal was refused.

More Conservatives Resign From Broederbond

MB190835 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] It has been announced in Cape Town that Conservative Party [CP] members of parliament who are members of the Broederbond [Afrikaner Brotherhood Movement] have resigned from the organization. The leader of the party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, resigned from the Broederbond earlier this month. The party chief whip, Mr Jan Hoon, says the reason for the resignations is the Broederbond's political course and, in particular, its support for the new constitution, which the CP finds unacceptable. The names of the CP members of parliament who have resigned from the Broederbond are not mentioned in the announcement.

Malan Says Defense Sacrifices Aid Compromise

MB170544 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] The minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says that all military operations undertaken by the Defense Force are designed to bring peace, prosperity, and stability to South Africa and South-West Africa.

Addressing a meeting of the Kempton Park Commando, Gen Malan said the Defense Force had worked closely with political and diplomatic authorities in playing a decisive role in replacing confrontation in southern Africa with cooperation and understanding. He said the country was at a point where the ANC's actions had been considerably restrained. Gen Malan said, however, that the price of peace was sustained vigilance and that South Africans would play into the hands of the enemy if they believed that the danger had been removed through the Southern African initiative.

The minister added that allegations that young soldiers have sacrificed their lives unnecessarily because compromises were being made with the enemy were unfounded. Peaceful negotiations and political solutions had been made possible by sacrifices by South Africa's security forces.

Gen Malan said those countries hosting the ANC were thoroughly aware that South Africa would not put up with terrorist action from other countries against the population. If the security situation demanded it, South Africa had the military power to take action, he said.

Gen Malan said he believed the stage was being set in Southern Africa for countries to reconsider their previous antiwhite and anti-South African stances. The hard facts of real politics were forcing them to seek peace, prosperity, and stability for the whole region in cooperation with South Africa.

Buthelezi Reacts to Land Commission Disbanding

MB190742 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0720 GMT 19 Jun 84

[Text] Cape Town, June 19, SAPA — The government's plans to hand over Ingwavuma and Kangwane to Swaziland appeared to be going ahead last night after two homeland leaders had been informed officially that the Rumpff Commission had been disbanded.

In a statement in Cape Town, the Kwazulu leader, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, said the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Piet Koornhof, had summoned him to a meeting in Cape Town to inform him of the move. The chief minister of Kangwane, Mr Enos Mabuza, also met Dr Koornhof in Cape Town yesterday.

Mr Mabuza said last night he had undertaken not to comment on the talks until after a final decision on the matter at a Cabinet meeting in Cape Town today. Dr Koornhof said last night a statement would be issued in due course.

The chairman of the Rumpff Commission, Mr Justice F.L.H. Rumpff, is on holiday and could not be contacted.

The Progressive Federal Party's chief spokesman on cooperation and development, Mr Ray Swart, last night demanded an immediate statement from Dr Koornhof to clarify the position. Although it seemed Dr Koornhof did not inform Chief Buthelezi or Mr Mabuza of the government's intentions, fears were immediately expressed the land deal was in the cards.

In his statement, Chief Buthelezi said: "I have a foreboding fear that the South African Government still intends to hand over Kangwane and Ingwavuma to Swaziland as a pay-off to Swazi-

land for having entered into a pact with South Africa in secret. I fear that the South African Government will continue to bludgeon black South Africa into submission." Chief Buthelezi said he feared for the future of South Africa under the National Party. He said the government "wheels and deals" behind the backs of the electorate and the whole of South Africa and he feared the price the government was prepared to pay for Swaziland's membership in a South African confederation of states was the cession of Kangwane and Ingwavuma.

The government's initial attempt in 1982 to excise Ingwavuma from Kwazulu by proclamation as a first step to handing it to Swaziland was thwarted by a court ruling that the action was ultra vires. Among other reasons advanced for the judgment was that there had not been the prior consultation with the Kwazulu Government required by law.

The Rumpff Commission was appointed late in 1982 to investigate the Ingwavuma issue. It was later asked to investigate the Kangwane question as well. Earlier this month Mr Justice Rumpff released a letter he had written to members of the commission informing them he did not intend calling another meeting of the commission in the near future. He said he was inclined to expect some important statement from the government in regard to its attitude to the commission.

In a parliamentary debate last week, the deputy minister of cooperation, Dr George Morrison, declined to answer opposition demands that the government clarify matters relating to the future of Ingwavuma and Kangwane.

Two New Oil Rigs To Join Oil, Gas Search

MB161220 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Jun 84

[Text] A report from Cape Town says the (Sedco Kay) oil rig, which has made most of the major oil and gas strikes off the southern Cape coast, has been withdrawn from the search at the end its contract. The American-owned rig, which has operated off the South African coast since 1976, has been towed in Mossel Bay Harbor, about 400 km east of Cape Town. It was reported recently that South Africa was on the verge of large-scale production of diesel and petrol from a natural gas field off the south coast. Engineers were studying a plan which would cost more than $1.5 billion to convert the gas into petrol and diesel fuel. A rig built in Japan and on charter to the South African Oil Exploration Corporation, the (Nimbia), should arrive in South African waters at the end of next month to join its sister rig, the (Attila), in the oil search. The two new rigs can oeprate in deeper and rougher water than the (Sedco Kay).

Bomb Victim May Have Planted Bethal Explosive

MB171214 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] The police say the black man who was killed in a bomb explosion at Bethal Magistrate's Court last night may possibly have planted the explosive himself. The man was about 30 years old. The building was not badly damaged.

ANC Pledges To Intensify Armed Struggle

MB181050 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has pledged to intensify the armed struggle inside South Africa despite the signing of the accords with some neighboring countries. The ANC's acting chief representative in Zambia, Comrade (Boyes Bocibo), said the latest maneuvers by the South African prime minister, P.W. Botha, to market apartheid in Europe are aimed at breaking the isolation of the regime and weakening the armed struggle. Comrade (Bocibo) appealed to the international community to continue isolating the apartheid regime and cautioned against open or covert contact with Pretoria, because this would give Botha the diplomatic leverage to buy time and delay independence for the country.

ANC Issues Statement on Soweto Anniversary

EA152247 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Jun 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam: The ANC of South Africa has called on the international community to redouble its material, political and moral support for the struggling people of South Africa. In a statement to mark the eighth anniversary of the Soweto student uprising tomorrow, the ANC said the struggling people of South Africa have now more than ever before heightened their determination to free themselves from the shackles of the apartheid regime. It also called for increased support to the Frontline States to enable them to withstand racist aggression against them. To commemorate the Soweto uprising the UN General Assembly in 1976 proclaimed June 16th as the international day of solidarity with the struggling people of South Africa.

Briefs

Mozambique Airlines Agreement — South African Airways [SAA] and the Mozambique Airlines, LAM, signed an agreement in Maputo this morning in terms of which SAA will undertake the overhauling of aircraft engines for LAM. [Excerpt] [Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Jun 84 MB]

ZAMBIA

Mundia Says Relations With U.S. 'Never Better'

MB170823 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia has said the relationship between Zambia and the United States has never been better than it is now. He noted that except for the question of Namibia, where the two countries have yet to reconcile, Zambia and America were never on the most major issues [phrase as heard] and hoped they would find a solution to Namibia's independence.

Mr Mundia said this yesterday at the wedding reception of (Akru), daughter of Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation

Directo General (James Mapuma), who married (Mike Johnson) of America. He said the wedding of the couple could not have come at a better time than now when the relationship between Zambia and America is at its very best. He pointed out that such international marriages were very important as relations between two countries were dependent on the understanding prevailing between the peoples of nations concerned.

Mr Mundia also noted that organizations from America, like Africare [the African Reinsurance Company] have invested millions of kwacha in Africa not for profit but for the continent's development, adding that Zambia greatly appreciated this assistance.

Consignment of Maize Received From Malawi

MB181054 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] Minister of Power, Transport, and Communications Fitzpatrick Chuula has confirmed that Zambia has so far received 1,000 tons of Malawi maize bought through loans from the EEC and the World Food Program. The minister said this was the first consignment received out of the nearly 40,000 tons of maize secured by Zambia in the deal. The maize is valued at 8 million kwacha. Earlier this year, Zambia bought maize worth 2 million kwacha from Malawi, and last year got some 60,000 tons of maize from Malawi. Mr Chuula told newsmen at Kamuzu Banda International Airport before departure for Lusaka yesterday that his delegation had been in Lilongwe to iron out transport problems for moving the maize from Malwi to Zambia. Malawian transporters are signed to hold 24,000 tons of maize, while the remainder will be transported by Zambian transporters.

ZIMBABWE

ZANU Supporters Raid ZAPU, UANC Offices

MB180630 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] There has been a massive demonstration against the activities of ZAPU and the United African National Council [UANC] in Mashonaland West Province. More than 40,000 ZANU-PF supporters converged on Kadoma yesterday, demanding a ban on the two parties. Chanting party slogans in song, the crowd entered ZAPU and UANC offices, confiscating one rifle, ammunition, party literature, spears, and pangas. These weapons were later shown to the Mashonaland West provincial treasurer, Comrade Enos Chikowore, who is also the minister of local government and town planning, and Comrade Robson Manyika, the deputy minister of labor and social welfare. The two ministers appealed to the people to combine efforts with those in the Midlands to flush out dissidents and their supporters.

The ZANU-PF chairman for Mashonaland West province, Comrade (Hebson Mutangi), told the ZBC that the demonstrators were reacting to recent killings of party members by armed dissidents. he also said a member of the Zimbabwe National Army was killed in the province last week, and this had sparked the demonstration in Kadoma.

Minister Defends Anti-ZAPU Demonstrations

MB190717 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] In a recent interview with the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, said the demonstrations against both ZAPU and United African National Council [UANC] activities are aimed at protecting the general public and party members. Comrade Shamuyarira disclosed that after the murder of Comrade Peter Simunyu in (Nukungezu), authorities had discovered that 22 other ZANU- PF members were on a ZAPU blacklist. He assured peaceful elements both in ZAPU and the UANC that they have nothing to fear, because only those who continue to take part in dissident activities will be uprooted.

ZAPU Political Meetings Banned in Midlands

MB171205 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] ZIANA reports that ZAPU has been banned from conducting political meetings in the Midlands Province with effect from tomorrow. In an interview with ZIANA after the burial of Comrade Celestine Jongwe, who was murdered by dissidents in Chemagora farming area last Monday, the minister of state in the prime minister's office, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, said ZAPU has been organizing its people to support dissidents in the province. He said the ban will remain in force until all dissidents in the area have been wiped out and peace restored.

The minister said during the last 6 months, eight ZANU-PF officials have been murdered by dissidents in the same area. Comrade Munangagwa said on each occasion the government discovered that ZAPU officials fed and sheltered the dissidents who carried out the murders and misled the security forces in their follow-up operations. Meanwhile, police are holding a man for questioning on the murder of Comrade Jongwe. This man is reported to have sheltered 20 dissidents before the murder.

22 Injured in Midlands Protests Against ZAPU

MB181818 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] There has been another mass demonstration against ZAPU's continued support for dissidents in the midlands. About 20,000 people converged on Gweru today, singing revolutionary songs and chanting slogans against ZAPU and its leadership. They also demanded the immediate arrest of the ZAPU leader, Joshua Nkomo. Violence erupted when ZAPU supporters attacked the demonstrators. ZIANA reports that 22 people were injured, two of them seriously. The demonstrators stormed the ZAPU offices, setting them on fire. The Midlands provincial governor, Comrade Benson Ndemera, who addressed the demonstrators, reaffirmed the ban on ZAPU meetings thoughout the province. He urged them to disperse peacefully and remain united. Similar demonstratioms also took place in Shurugwi and Zavishavane.

Mugabe Cites Chief's Defiance of Smith Regime

MB161210 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 Jun 84

[Text] One of Zimbabwe's most dedicated freedom fighters, Senator Chief Rekayi Tangwena, was buried with full military honors at Heroes Acre in Harare today. Thousands of people attended the state funeral, among them relatives of the late chief; the president, Comrade Cannan Banana; the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe; cabinet ministers; other government officials; and members of the diplomatic corps. The service was conducted by Bishop (Maseko) of the Anglican Cathedral in Harare, and choirs sang revolutionary songs and tributes to the man who defied the Rhodesian Front regime.

Graveside speeches, interspersed by revolutionary songs, were delivered by representatives of the Tangwena family, the prime minister, and the president. Their speeches depicted a gentle father and a strong man with exceptional leadership qualities. Comrade Mugabe said Chief Tangwena was a man of the people and led by example. He related the suffering of the Tangwena people at the hands of the Smith regime, and how Chief Tangwena led him and the ZANU-PF Manicaland provincial chairman, Comrade Edgar Tekere, across the border into Mozambique during the liberation struggle.

Comrade Mugabe said the people of Zimbabwe will continue to learn from the brave and selfless actions of the late chief and will further consolidate the hard-won freedom which he fought for. The president, Comrade Banana, described how Chief Tangwena and his people defied the Smith regime and resisted eviction in their ancestral land in the Inyanga mountains.

Survey To Be Conducted of Farm Land Utilization

MB181214 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Jun 84

[Text] The government is to send information forms to commercial farmers to determine how much of their land is not being utilized with a view to allocating it to the state. The minister of lands, resettlement, and rural development, Comrade Moven Mahachi, announced this today. He told the ZBC that the information forms, known as the Land, Information, and Occupation Act Regulation, were compulsory and that they should be filled in by every farm holder and returned to his ministry. The minister warned those who fail to fill in the forms and return them to his ministry that they risk having their lands declared back to the state. Comrade Mahachi said he is convinced that there is a lot of land on commercial farms which is lying idle. He added that it was, therefore, important to find out the extent of land usage and occupation in the country.

Paper Asks Serious Consideration of Botha Offer

MB171210 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Jun 84

[Text] A newspaper in Harare, the *SUNDAY MAIL*, says the offer by the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, to withdraw from South-West Africa if Western governments agree to take over the administration and defense of the territory should be considered seriously. The newspaper says in an editorial that Mr Botha's offer should not be dismissed out of hand. The offer should be taken up and tested to its last detail and texture. The newspaper said it could not understand why the Western countries did not want to consider the offer. Mr Botha made the offer during his recent European tour.